Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Tropical storm intensifies, may pass near NI. PAGE 3
More than 2K collected in PH quake fund drive. PAGE 6

$227K sought for opt-outs

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Senate poised to act on House bill today

Gov. Eloy S. Inos asked the Legislature late afternoon yesterday for a supplemental budget using $107,258 in available resources "not previously appropriated," to pay for the pension of 16 retirees who opted out of a Retirement Fund settlement agreement.

The total needed, however, is over $227,000, and the administration and Legislature need to identify new sources to fund the balance through the end of fiscal year 2014.

The governor's request came on the eve of today's Senate action on a House-passed bill funding the opt-outs' pension using lapsed funds from the government's employer portion of the defined contribution plan.

It also comes days after one of those who opted out, Jess Taisague, sued the governor, the CNMI government, and the Fund for alleged violation of his constitutional rights.

As of last night, lawmakers said they had yet to see the governor's actual letter requesting supplemental funding for the opt-outs.

The 16 who opted out the settlement agreement are not eligible to receive

See $227K on Page 4

DO YOU KNOW THE WAY TO...?

A vehicle passes by a new marker along the road leading to and from Capital Hill yesterday. The marker guides tourists and residents—in at least six languages—to some of Saipan's villages. Installation of the village marker has been initiated by Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan), in cooperation with public and private entities.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Partial accord in Marpi power poles lawsuit

The CNMI government reached yesterday a partial settlement with the group Friends of Marpi in connection with the latter's lawsuit over the installation of power poles in Marpi.

In a joint statement, Friends of Marpi counsel David G. Banes and government lawyer Charles Brasington stated that both sides agreed that the settlement was in the best interests of the Commonwealth.

Banes and Brasington said that under the settlement deal, the government will take down the controversial power poles in the Marpi area from the Buddhist temple to the Veterans Cemetery along Chalan Pale Arnold Road.

Once completed, the lawyers said,

See PARTIAL on Page 4

NMI Bar gives Kim-Tenorio 'acceptable' rating

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Kim-Tenorio

The CNMI Bar Association has given lawyer Theresa Kim-Tenorio a passing rate in the evaluation its members did on her fitness to sit in the Superior Court as an associate judge.

A copy of the Bar's evaluation results obtained by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday showed that members gave Kim-Tenorio average scores equivalent to "acceptable" or "meets minimum standards of performance."

The survey form asked Bar members to score Kim-Tenorio on a scale of 1 to 5 on five different parameters, with 1 being the lowest or "unacceptable" and five the highest or "excellent." A score of 2 is equivalent to "deficient," 3 is equivalent to "acceptable," and 4 is "good."

The lawyer received the lowest average score of 3.00 on experience. She obtained a 3.63 score for integrity; 3.48 for professional competence; 3.41 for judicial temperament; and 3.81 for service to the law and contribution to the effective administration of justice.

A "good" rating is 4, which means the nominee often exceeds minimum stan-

See NMI BAR on Page 4

GOT A NEWS TIP?
TEL: 235-6397
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EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

OPINION METER
This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest and 5 the highest, how would you rate CUC's response time to power outages during last week's bad weather?

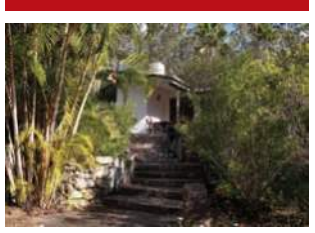
Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

WORLD

A wave of violence across Iraq kills 45 people. ➤ PAGE 16

FOCUS


By the time paramedics showed up, the old woman's screams were already at a 10 out of 10. ➤ PAGE 17

OVERDRIVE

Self-driving cars are inching closer to mainstream availability. ➤ PAGE 18

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SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS *Terms and conditions apply

Local

GCA celebrates Mission Convention Week

Oct. 21 to 27, 2013, was Grace Christian Academy's Mission Convention Week, which had the theme "Beyond…so all can hear (2 Corinthians 10:16)."

The celebration kicked off with a parade participated by students from K3 to 12th grade. Each class chose a country that they will pray for.

The K-4 class prayed for the country of Ecuador, K-3 and K-5 classes combined to pray for the United States, the 1st grade class chose Mexico, the 2nd grade prayed for China, the 3rd grade chose New Zealand; 4th grade, Italy; 5th grade, England; 6th grade, Philippines; 7th grade, France; 8th grade, Japan; 9th grade, Korea; 10th grade, Greece; 11th grade, India; and 12th grade, Micronesia.

The Mission Convention Week included Training and Teaching Nights on Oct. 22 and 23, during which the GCA family and the Krake family partnered to learn more about ministering to children.

The GCA family also held Community Outreaches on Oct. 25 and 26 at the San Antonio basketball court, Kagman Community Center, and Tanapag Beach Pavilion.

The celebration ended on Oct. 27 with the Mission Convention Sunday Service at the GCA Navy Hill Church. ***(PR)***

Kinder 3, Kinder 5 USA

4th Grade Italy

8th Grade Japan

Kinder 4 Ecuador

5th Grade England

9th Grade Korea

1st Grade Mexico

10th Grade Greece

6th Grade Philippines

11th Grade India

2nd Grade China

3rd Grade New Zealand

7th Grade France

12th Grade Micronesia

Tropical storm intensifies, may pass near Northern Islands

Another tropical storm formed near Enewetak Atoll in the Marshall Islands yesterday and is forecast to pass near the Northern Islands either on Wednesday or Thursday.

As of 7pm Monday, the center of Tropical Storm Lekima was 180 miles west-northwest of Enewetak Atoll, 420 miles north-northwest of Pohnpei, 550 miles north-northwest of Kosrae, 590 miles west-northwest of Kwajalein, and 1,035 miles east of Guam.

From maximum sustained winds of 45 miles per hour at 1pm, Lekima intensified and increased its sustained winds to 50mph as of 7pm last night, according to the National Weather Service in Guam.

Moving northwest at 8 mph, Lekima is expected to turn toward the west-northwest while increasing forward speed through last night. The storm is expected to continue intensifying during the next couple of days, with its force winds extending outward up to 105 miles from the center.

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management said that a high surf advisory remains in effect until 6pm Wednesday as hazardous surf of 9 to 11 feet is expected along west and north facing reefs last night.

Gov. Eloy Inos advised the public to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along north and west facing reefs, as rip currents will be life threatening. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

'Payments for Fund now go directly to settlement fund'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos vetoed a bill that would have reinstated $80 million for the NMI Retirement Fund, saying the settlement deal in *Johnson v Inos* already calls for a settlement fund that will administer the benefits of retirees.

"Therefore, the NMIRF does not need an $80 million appropriation to meet obligations to pay retiree benefits," the governor said in his veto message to the Legislature on House Bill 18-124.

The bill, authored by House Ways and Means Committee chair Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan), sought to correct an oversight in the fiscal year 2014 budget law to allow the Fund to pay the full amount of retirement benefits.

However, on Sept. 30, the U.S. District Court for the NMI gave final approval of the settlement agreement in *Johnson v Inos*. Pursuant to that agreement, a separate settlement fund will administer the benefit and all of the CNMI government's annual payments should be made directly to the settlement fund.

"Such annual payments are appropriated through an NMI DB Employer contribution line item," the governor told House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) and Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan).

The governor vetoed the Fund appropriation bill on Oct. 16

» Inos signs shooting range, medical board laws

Shooting ranges

Inos signed two new laws on Oct. 18, including one that amends the CNMI Weapons Control Act and allows with restrictions the operation of outdoor shooting ranges and skeet shooting projects.

Inos signed Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero's (Cov-Saipan) House Bill 18-29, House Draft 2 or the Recreational Target Range Act of 2013, into Public Law 18-26.

This new law authorizes the licensing of shooting galleries and shooting ranges and places restrictions on their operation.

A shooting gallery means a licensed business place, other than a shooting range, with a minimum capital investment of $500,000 at which the general public may discharge firearms upon payment of a fee.

A shooting range, meanwhile, means a development with a minimum aggregate capital investment of $250,000 where amenities include, at a minimum, a restaurant, retail shop, office spaces, recreational facilities, and target and range facilities for rifle and handgun competition.

Other requirements include facilities for hosting of major international shooting competitions in accordance with International Shooting Sport Federation rules.

The term "weapons" under the new law means any rifle, shotgun, archery, and ammunition approved by the Department of Public Safety for use at shooting galleries and shooting ranges.

Investors that want to engage in this type of business must obtain a license from DPS and a general business license from the Department of Finance.

The new law requires DPS to establish rules for the secure storage of weapons that are to be kept in the premises of the shooting galleries or shooting ranges. These businesses must also buy at least $5 million of liability insurance coverage.

DPS will also set the rules on the use of proper equipment, material and design, training in the safe handling and operation of firearms for all employees, and their hiring of a range safety officer or basic firearms instructor certified by the National Rifle Association of America. In the alternative, police officers may be employed to supervise day-to-day operations.

PL 18-26 has a grandfather provision that exempts any shooting gallery whose license was in effect on Oct. 18, 2013.

Medical board

The governor also signed Rep. Trenton Conner's (Ind-Tinian) House Bill 18-33 into Public Law 18-25.

This new law reestablishes the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners as an autonomous public agency.

It also provides the board with expenditure authority over its funds to ensure its ability to function independently and more effectively.

Under the current statute, the Board is created within the Department of Public Health (now Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.).

The Board is also afforded the power to reappoint members to a second term if no other appointment appears forthcoming after 90 days.

Rotary's Thanksgiving lunch for *man'amko* set on Nov. 19

The Rotary Club of Saipan will hold its annual Thanksgiving luncheon for residents of the Aging Center on Nov. 19, 2013.

Rotary Club president Laila Y. Boyer said this early, the organization should think of parlor games to keep the island's *man'amko* entertained during the Thanksgiving event.

She said the club's version of the "Minute To Win It" seemed to be a big hit for congregates of the Aging Center last year.

Aside from the popular game show, the Aging Center's *man'amko* readily participated in creative table games like ninja card, cerealbox puzzle game, rapid fire, nut stack, and water quarter drop in last year's Thanksgiving luncheon hosted by the Rotary Club.

Last year's celebration also saw Saipan's seniors entertained by Hapi D' Clown, who conjured his balloon tricks, and the newer members of the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Band, who played holiday music. ***(Mark Rabago)***

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Proposed tax amnesty until Jan. 1, 2014 inches forward

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House Ways and Means Committee has recommended full House passage of a Senate-amended bill providing tax amnesty until Jan. 1, 2014. If the House passes the bill and is signed into law this month, it gives eligible taxpayers barely two months to avail of the tax amnesty.

The panel approved passage of the bill in its current form, inclusive of a Senate amendment that exempts from the new round of tax amnesty those businesses that already availed of two previous tax amnesties under Public Laws 12-51 or 14-28.

Once the committee report is adopted, it could be acted on in the next House session.

Since Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan) introduced House Bill 18-28, it has gone through amendments including one that extends the tax amnesty from the original proposal of up to Jan. 1, 2017, to only up to Jan. 1, 2014.

Sablan's bill provides amnesty for the filing of delinquent tax returns, to encourage persons and entities to come into compliance with tax laws, and help generate revenues from taxes that could not otherwise be collected.

The bill's proponents said a tax amnesty program is the "most cost-effective" way for the government to collect tax revenue during difficult economic times and one that is "better than writing off" debts to the government.

If this bill becomes law, this would only be the third time that the CNMI government will provide a tax amnesty. They were done in 2001 and 2005.

Under a tax amnesty program, penalties and interests on unpaid or unreported taxes are waived. However, they still have to pay the original tax liabilities. It allows taxpayers to voluntarily come forward and take action to comply with tax laws.

Trial of 2 suspected 'ice' traffickers begins

The jury trial of two men suspected of being suppliers of methamphetamine or "ice" began yesterday in the Superior Court.

Assistant attorneys general Chemere McField and Barbara Cepeda began calling in their witnesses in the case against Yu Hua Wang and Le Xian Chen. Police detective Roque Camacho was the last witness to testify yesterday for the government. Defense lawyer Bruce Berline, counsel for Chen, completed his cross-examination of Camacho.

The trial will continue today, Tuesday, at 8:30am with assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, counsel for Wang, expected to cross-examine the detective.

Wang and Chen are facing charges of one count of trafficking of a controlled substance, one count of possession of a controlled substance, and one count of conspiracy.

A sting operation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Task Force using a confidential informant who purchased $200 worth of "ice" on Feb. 27, 2010, led to the arrest and filing of charges against the suspects.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho is presiding over the trial. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

ERRATUM

Saipan Tribune erroneously identified Kat Rila and her son, Mark, as the winners of the Club 200 dance contest last Saturday. The correct winners were Ekaterina Markova and her son, Mark. Our apologies.

LECTURE SERIES
Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho speaks in last Tuesday's lecture series on the Chalan Kanoa Kiosku at Room D-1 of the Northern Marianas College.

MARK RABAGO

See story on Page 5

NMI BAR

From Page 1

dards of performance. An "excellent rating, 5, means the nominee consistently exceeds minimum standards of performance. A "deficient" rating, or 2, means the nominee does not always meet minimum standards of performance. An "unacceptable" rating of 1 means the nominee seldom meets minimum standards of performance.

Bar Association president Sean E. Frink and vice president Maya B. Kara said members who submitted evaluations were also asked how they knew Kim-Tenorio.

Twenty-one evaluating members indicated that they know the lawyer from direct professional experience, 15 indicated that they know her professionally, and 18 indicated that they know her socially, according to Frink and Kara in a letter they jointly signed and submitted yesterday to Gov. Eloy Inos and to the Legislature.

The Bar Association has 200 active members, about 100 of whom primarily practice law in the CNMI. Of these 100 active CNMI-based lawyers, about 40 are employees of the government in various capacities.

Frink and Kara said that 22 active Bar members timely completed and submitted the evaluation forms related to Kim-Tenorio's nomination to the bench.

Inos nominated Kim-Tenorio to the Superior Court bench early this month, about four months since the governor withdrew the nomination of attorney Ramon K. Quichocho due to controversies.

Kim-Tenorio has been legal counsel for Inos starting when the latter was still lieutenant governor and after he became governor in February this year.

Frink told *Saipan Tribune* that the forms were sent to Bar members more than two weeks ago and the deadline for submission was last Friday.

The same forms were used in rating Quichocho, the administration's first nominee to the same position. Bar members, however, flunked Quichocho by giving him the lowest average scores equivalent to "unacceptable" and "deficient."

The Bar created the evaluation process for judicial nominees and candidates for judicial retention in 2002, saying it is in the interest of the people of the CNMI to have judicial officers of the highest caliber.

The Bar said that elected officials should have the information necessary to make reasoned decisions about whether candidates for judicial offices should be nominated and confirmed.

PARTIAL

From Page 1

Friends of Marpi will drop the portion of their lawsuit related to the disputed power poles.

The 43 power poles are part of a $2.9-million project to supply power to the Marpi public cemetery and the CNMI Veterans Cemetery.

With only two more power poles reportedly needed to be installed to complete the project, Friends of Marpi led by Tina Sablan filed the lawsuit in early 2011.

In May 2011, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo issued orders that granted Friends of Marpi's preliminary injunction that suspended the power poles project for 90 days.

The CNMI government then appealed Govendo's order to the CNMI Supreme Court. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

$227K

From Page 1

benefits from the settlement fund. They will need a separate appropriation of funds in order to be paid their semi-monthly pension.

Inos is proposing an appropriation of "available un-appropriated revenues for FY 2014" in order to help these opt-outs.

Estimated revenue for fiscal year 2014 is $123.4 million but total appropriation under Public Law 18-18—the FY 2014 budget law—is $123,692,742.

Inos said there's $107,258 in total estimated resource not previously appropriated.

But the governor needs to identify revenues of over $102,000 to fund the retiree opt-outs' pension.

The amount required to fully fund the pension excluding employer contribution for Group Health and Life Insurance is $248,114.73.

The required amount to be paid at 75 percent of pension is $186,086.07.

The employer contribution and Life Insurance is $41,342.40.

"Therefore, the total amount required is $227,428.47," the governor told House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) and acting Senate president Victor Hocog (R-Rota).

Inos said the proposed appropriation is sufficient to last only from Oct. 1, 2013, through March 15, 2015.

He said they still need to identify new revenues for appropriation to fund the balance through the end of fiscal year 2014, Sept. 30, 2014.

"Since these retirees did not receive any pension checks on Oct. 15, 2013, I urge the Legislature to act expeditiously on a supplemental appropriation bill described above. Needless to say, I am prepared to approve this bill upon reaching my office," the governor added.

Meanwhile, the Senate will hold a 1:30pm session today and one of the bills on the agenda is House Bill 18-130, providing an appropriation to fund the retiree opt-outs' pension using lapsed funds meant for employer contribution in the DC program.

There is no telling, as of yesterday, whether the Senate will move ahead with HB 18-130 as passed by the House on Friday, in light of the governor's request for supplemental appropriation.

Retirees that remain members of the settlement class have started receiving a 25-percent cut in their pensions.

CNMI, Guam joint Congress schedules inaugural session

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI and Guam Legislatures will hold an inaugural session for the newly formed Mariana Islands Legislature Association Congress on Nov. 12 and 13, with the cruise line industry, trade between the two territories, and health care among the topics of discussion.

Won Pat

Guam Speaker Judith T. Won Pat formally invited CNMI House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) and Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) to the inaugural session.

Deleon Guerrero, in an interview yesterday, said he would request a joint meeting of the CNMI House and Senate later this week to discuss participation in the inaugural session.

"Besides the three topics that the Guam speaker mentioned, another topic that could also be discussed is airline services between the CNMI and Guam," Deleon Guerrero said.

Won Pat, in her Oct. 10 letter, also asked that the invitation letter be extended to other members of the CNMI Legislature that the speaker and president deem appropriate.

Won Pat, also the president of the Association of Pacific Islands Legislators, asked that her office be advised of all the members who will be part of the CNMI Legislature delegation no later than Oct. 23.

"We look forward to constructing the Mariana Islands Cooperative Initiative and exploring areas of joint economic development and mutual benefit between the governments of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. For this inaugural meeting, topics of discussion that will be covered include cruise line industry, trade between Guam and NMI, and health care and other matters," Won Pat said.

The MILA seeks to improve the quality of life, relationships and future of the CNMI and Guam communities.

The CNMI and Guam Legislatures, in forming the MILA, agreed that by binding, the islands' voice "will be strengthened in discussions and considerations with federal entities and other governments regarding issues affecting our region."

In her visit to Saipan in July, Won Pat noted the need to create a healthcare network for all islands in Micronesia. A report by insurance firms and hospitals on the matter is expected to be done soon.

Importance of CK Kiosku emphasized

The lecture "Saipan and Northern Islands Leadership Memorial Kiosku Project" finally pushed through Tuesday at the Northern Marianas College, about two months after heavy rains scuttled the original schedule in August.

Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho, former lawmaker William S. Torres, and architect Herman B. Cabrera took turns explaining the historical significance, importance, and what the future holds for the monument during the lecture held at Room D-1 of the NMC campus.

The presentation is part of Northern Marianas Humanities Council's three-part lecture series.

Camacho said the project represents the embodiment of actions and deeds resulting in milestones in local leadership since the decolonization of the Northern Marianas and the eventual transformation of the islands into a self-governing entity.

He said the inspiration for the Kiosku project, which is located across from the U.S. Post Office in Chalan Kanoa, is its historic significance and value to the islands' indigenous people.

In executing the project, the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council attempted to recapture in symbols, forms, and narratives the role of local leaders in the transformation of an island-nation and its people.

Torres said the vision for the Kiosku is to make the place a living memorial for remembrance, commemoration, celebration, and education of the present and future generations of people of Northern Marianas descent as well as other residents, visitors, students, and scholars.

As a living monument, the Kiosku should also serve as a resource center for research, dissemination, and exchange of narratives on and about local leaders and leadership in public service on Saipan and the Northern Islands.

When fully constituted, the municipal council hopes the Kiosku will be the focal point on Saipan for public access to information, resources, and research activities for learning, appreciation, and perpetuation of local leadership, heritage, and legacy of a sovereign people.

Cabrera said his firm incorporated Chamorro and Carolinian themes in the design of the Kiosku. For instance, he said the latte stone serves as the pillars of the kiosku on the right side of the property, while the arch on the left side, adorned by flowers, is meant to replicate the Carolinian mwar-mwar.

Torres said that future plan for the Kiosku is to make it a self-generating entity by allowing vendors to sell their wares and food item at its premises. There are also plans to set up a visitors center where lectures, demonstrations, and other activities can be held. A gift shop to sell local souvenir items is also being eyed.

Camacho appealed to the community to treasure the Kiosku and reiterated that the living memorial is theirs and that their names or their relatives' names will someday be etched on its walls.

The lecture series concludes today with historian Don Farrell's presentation "Marianas Reunification Efforts." It will be held at Room D-1 of the college beginning at 6pm. ***(Mark Rabago)***

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670)664-2408

RFP14-GOV-008
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE PROVISION OF HEALTHCARE INSURANCE

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude Hofschneider, are soliciting competitive sealed proposals according to the requirements of N.M.I.A.C. § 70-30.3-210 from qualified vendors to provide healthcare insurance for Commonwealth employees and retirees for a two-year period 1-1-14 through 12-31-15. Proposals are to include all costs for the provision of services as identified in the scope of work and provided on the forms and manner identified. Submitted proposals will be evaluated on a possible 100 points based on the following factors:

50 points – price;
50 points – demonstrated ability to provide the required healthcare services of the Commonwealth.

Award shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.

Submitted proposals follow the structure as identified in the proposal packet. The proposal packet can be obtained from the Office of Management & Budget - Juan Sablan Memorial Building - Capitol Hill (670-664-2375) after October 23, 2013 (ChST). A mandatory pre-proposal meeting ("Pre-proposal Meeting") will be held on November 6, 2013 at Office of Management & Budget, Capitol Hill at 9 a.m. Prospective proposers may participate telephonically in this Pre-proposal Meeting with adequate advance notice of at least 36 hours to the Office of Management & Budget (670-664-2375).

All proposals must be sealed in an envelope and marked "RFP14-GOV-008 Healthcare Insurance Proposal" and must include an original and four copies and must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, November 22, 2013 (ChST) to:

Herman S. Sablan, Director
Marianas Procurement & Supply - Lower Base
P.O. Box 510008 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Proposers bear all risk concerning delivery. For further information contact the Office of Management & Budget (670-664-2375). All proposals become the property of the Commonwealth

/s/ELOY S. INOS, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **October 23**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **October 23**.

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You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than **October 23**. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

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ADDENDUM NO. 1
10/21/2013
RFP13-GOV-092

LANDFILL EQUIPMENT FOR TINIAN AND ROTA

The previously advertised notice, Request For Proposals ("RFP") for the **"Landfill Equipment for Tinian and Rota"** has been amended. The specific amendment is to extend proposal submission from 4:30 p.m., Thursday, October 24, 2013 to 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, October 30, 2013 Saipan Time or approximately six (6) calendar days.

All other elements of the RFP remain as originally provided. For further information on this project, please contact the Capital Improvement Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Monday through Friday, except holidays) or by contacting Mr. Carl Castro, Contracting Officer Technical Representative at (670)664-2375 or by fax at (670)664-2408.

END OF ADDENDUM NO. 1

More than 2K collected so far in PH quake fund drive

The United Filipino Organization's fundraising drive for victims of last week's earthquake in the central Philippines has so far raised $2,184.62.

UFO president Annamae Adaza said their group set up a booth at the Sabalu Market last Saturday and asked for donations during the 11am Mass at Mt. Carmel Cathedral last Sunday and later at the 6pm Mass in Kristo Rai Parish.

The morning Mass at Mt. Carmel Cathedral collected the lion's share of the funds raised so far at $1,103.91, followed by $844.41 at the Sabalu Market and $236.30 at the Kristo Rai Parish. Adaza said a donor also gave 24 Philippine pesos at the Sabalu Market.

She thanked everyone for their donation and encouraged others to give by calling or texting her at 483-5237 or UFO secretary Mario Mayuga at 285-1021.

"For those who haven't donated yet but are willing to give, please just let us know. It's better to give than to receive, knowing how lucky we are that we don't experience those disasters and calamities. We Pinoys have a big heart and always willing to extend our help to the needy," she said.

While majority of those who've donated are Filipinos, a number of other ethnic groups like Koreans, Chamorros, and Carolinians also gave money for the cause, Adaza said.

Some 15 UFO members volunteered during the weekend donation pledges is this Friday, as UFO will conduct the final counting of donations on Oct. 25.

The fund drive continues today, Oct. 22, at the Tuesday Market at the Garapan Fishing Base and again at the Thursday Market on Oct. 24.

For more information or to pick up donations, call or text Adaza at 483-5237 or Mayuga at 285-1021.

CNN reported that the death toll from the magnitude-7.1 earthquake in the central Philippines rose Saturday to 183.

Authorities said the massive quake, which struck Tuesday, also destroyed 8,600 homes, according to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

The bulk of the casualties were in Bohol province. In an update on Saturday, the council said 583 people were injured and 13 remain missing. ***(Mark Rabago)***

Volunteers from the United Filipino Organization man a booth set up to collect donations for last week's earthquake in the central Philippines.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Friday, October 25, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor of the Captain George Fleming Building, at the Port of Saipan.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  1. Call to Order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Adoption of Agenda
  4. Adoption of Minutes (Sept. 30, 2013)

II. CORRESPONDENCES

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS
  1. Financial Affairs Committee
  2. Airport Facilities Committee
  3. Seaport Facilities Committee
  4. Personnel Affairs Committee

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

V. OLD BUSINESS
  1. Aged Accounts Receivables

VI. NEW BUSINESS
  1. Bridge Investment Group, LLC.
  2. Personnel Matter: Employment Contracts
  3. Supplemental Requests for Airport and Seaport
  4. Freedom Air
  5. DFS Lease Agreement
  6. Leo A. Daly Co. (Tinian Airport)
  7. Western Pacific Islands Association of Fire Chiefs Conference

VII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION/Legal Counsel Report

X. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ
Acting Chairman, Board of Directors

October 21, 2013

Ever thought of a Career in Healthcare?

Are you outgoing, bright and friendly?

YOU MAY HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO JOIN THE TEAM AS A MEDICAL BILLING ASSISTANT AT MARIANAS EYE INSTITUTE!

We prefer previous experience in this field.

Requirements:
- *US Citizens or IR Status*
- *High school diploma with a GPA or 3.3 or higher*
- *Police Clearance*
- *Computer Skills*
- *Credit Check*
- *Bright and friendly*
- *Letter of recommendation from previous employer*

Benefits:
- *Competitive salary*
- *Health Insurance*
- *Life Insurance*
- *Dental Insurance*
- *Retirement Plan*
- *Productivity Bonuses*
- *Profit Sharing*
- *Generous Leave Benefits*
- *Paid Holidays*

Great work environment, great benefits!
Apply in person at…

Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"

www.MarianasEye.com
Garapan, across from 13 Fisherman Monument
No Phone Calls Please

NOTICE

TO: MATTEW A. AND RITA M. OOKA:

You are in default in your Note dated October 3, 1995, secured by a Mortgage of the same date, executed and delivered by you to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation. The Note and the Mortgage have been assigned to Guam Savings & Loan Association, now known as BankPacific, Ltd.

(a) Description of the real property covered by Mortgage:

Lot No 330 R 12, situated in Sinapalo II, Rota, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 871 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 330 R 02, dated March 13, 1992, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 92-858, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

(b)	Date and amount of Note and Mortgage:	October 3, 1995; $79,181.03
(c)	Amount due for principal:	$913.38 as of October 1, 2012
(d)	Amount due for interest:	$1,863.56 as of October 1, 2012
(e)	Daily accruing interest:	$14.83
(f)	Late charges	$100.38 as of October 1, 2012

If the principal, interest, and late charges $2,877.32, plus accruing interest, together with reasonable attorney's fees, are not paid within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this notice upon you, you will be in default, and Court proceedings will be commenced against you to foreclose upon the said Mortgage because of the default.

Unless you, within thirty (30) days after publication of this Notice, dispute the validity of the claim, or any portion thereof, we will assume that it is valid. If you notify us in writing within this thirty (30) day period that the claim, or any portion thereof, is disputed, we will obtain information on the debt and mail you a copy thereof. Upon your written request within this thirty (30)-day period, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different form the creditor indicated above.

This Notice is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Señot yan Señora Ooka:

Ti un komple i kontratan debimu (Note) ni un fitma gi October 3, 1995, ni afabobot i Mortage ma asegurao i tano yan guma ni un empeña gi mismo dia, un fitma yan un entrega i empeña (Mortgage) guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation. I Note yan i Mortgage ma entrega guato gi Guam Savings & Loan Association ni esta pago ma fanan BankPacific, Ltd.

(a) I deskripsion tano ni ma empeneň (mortgaged):

Sito Numera 330 R 12, ni gaigi Sinapalo II, Rota, Islas Marianas, san kattan, ni ha konsiste un aria 871 quadrao metro, mas pat menus, mas patikulamenti discribi gi Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 330 R 02, gi Matso 13, 1992, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 92-858, guihi i discripsion ni ma incorporate guini ginen i infotmatson.

(b)	I kantida yan i fechan este na debi yan empepeña:	October 3, 1995; $79,181.03
(c)	Kantida un debi para principat:	$913.38 asta ki Octobre dia 1, 2012
(d)	Kantida un debi para interes:	$1,863.56 asta ki Octobre dia 1, 2012
(e)	Interes kada dia:	$14.83
(f)	Kantida pot atrasao	$100.38 asta ki Octobre dia 1, 2012

Yangin ti un apasi i kantida na principat, interes, yan apas pot atrasao (late charges) $2,877.32, asta ki Octobre dia 1, 2012, yan i resanable na apas abugado gi halom trenta (30) dias despues di I fecha ni un resibe este na notisia, un ma konsidera komo ti unkomple i kontratamu (default), ya siempre u-matutuhun kontra hago a kausan kotti ni para uma kondena ya uma dendi i propriadat tano'mu ni un empepeña guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

Solo yangin halom trenta (30) dias dispues de un resibe este na notisia yan un kontra minagahet-ña pot i apudera sino komo i pattida, siempre bai in hongge an asientadu a apudera. Pago yangin un kattayi ham gi halom este i trenta (30) dias siklo man infofotma hao pot i apudera sino komo i pattida para un kontra, pues bai in henta infotmasion pot i dibi-mu dispues un ma kattayi i kopia pot este na de'unta. Anai in resibe i katta-mu gi halom trenta (30) dias siklo, bai in nai"I hao i na'an yan address i akredot komo ti parehu na akredot ma indika guini hulu.

Este na Notisia para u ma na'kesiña ma rikohi i dibi-mu. Maseha hafa na infotmasion ni in resibe pot este na apudera-sina bai in usa para bai in ke-chagi mu rekohi para este I dibi-mu.

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ.
Attorney at Law

'Guam buildup will increase noise pollution'

A group in Guam is opposed to the U.S. military's plans to double the size of the area it uses for training and weapons testing.

A spokesperson for We Are Guahan says in the environmental impact study out for public consultation that the ocean area to be used is extended from Guam and the Northern Marianas as far as Palau.

Leevin Camacho says bombers are already flying regularly over Guam, which is not something that was common three years ago.

"During one of these holiday weekends we were out and we have fighter jets flying over our tourist area," Camacho said. "It's just not something that's really compatible or it's kind of jarring to be at the beach and to see a bomber and fighter jets flying while you're out trying to enjoy time with your family."

Camacho says his group is putting together a fact sheet on the environmental impact study to help people understand the full consequences of what is proposed. ***(Radio New Zealand International)***

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
The Law Offices Of Michael A. White, LLC
Post Office Box 5222
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff, -v- PIAO FENG SHAN AND YUAN CHANG NU, Defendants.) CIVIL ACTION) NO. 11-0118

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on October 9, 2013, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 002 D 15 (formerly known as Lot 3, Block 13), situated in Puntan Muchot, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 838 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 D 00, the original of which was recorded September 30, 1970, as Document No. 513, at the Land Registry, Saipan.

This lot is located between The Promenade (Paseo de Marianas) and Date Street, in the heart of the Garapan tourist district. The lot has been improved with a two-storey mixed-use building, approximately 14,000 square feet in size. The building is occupied, with commercial tenants on the ground floor and residential tenants on the second floor. The area is zoned Garapan Core, access is by paved road and walking traffic from the Paseo, and all infrastructure is at the site.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 6, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of October, 2013:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Palau, Taiwan tie up to enhance medical services

A new partnership established between Palau and the Health, Welfare and Environment Foundation of Taiwan is set to improve medical services for more than 20,000 residents in Palau.

The Foundation is spending half a million dollars to connect Palau to hundreds of doctors and medical experts in Taiwan, the Philippines, and the United States by implementing Health Cloud Information Systems.

The press secretary for president Tommy Remengesau, Keobel Sakuma, told Oceania Television Network that this would allow doctors from those countries to access patient information at any location and provide real-time medical expertise.

"With the Health Cloud System the patient can go to the hospital, their records are available over the Internet and doctors in Taiwan can take a look at the diagnosis, the examination, and maybe see things that we can't see here in Palau. I mean there are experts in so many different fields that will access to this information," Sakuma said. ***(Radio New Zealand International)***

Hyatt picks MINA as beneficiary of its gala dinner

Hyatt Regency Saipan has chosen the non-profit environmental group Marianas Islands Nature Alliance as the beneficiary of its 33rd anniversary gala dinner.

MINA beat out five other eligible submissions from various non-profit organizations to get the nod of the landmark's hotel's leadership committee.

Hyatt said that MINA responded to the hotel's question: "How May We Assist You?," believing that the organization embodies the four pillars that Hyatt Thrive represents.

"We are truly grateful for the overwhelming opportunity to help make Saipan a better place for our tourists to visit through MINA. I would also like to sincerely thank all submissions from the various non-profit organizations in the CNMI," said Hyatt general manager Nick K. Nishikawa.

MINA chair Frankie Eliptico said their group is extremely grateful to Hyatt for selecting them.

"MINA is excited to partner with Hyatt Regency Saipan to continue the marine debris prevention project and to supplement the Rare Pride Campaign in Managaha. The event also provides a great opportunity for people to enjoy a great evening with great food while they are also helping the environment," he said.

Every year, Hyatt hosts its anniversary gala dinner to raise funds for a local non-profit organization as part of its corporate responsibility platform, Hyatt Thrive.

The organization must be active within one of the four pillars of Hyatt Thrive: environmental sustainability, economic development and investment, education and personal advancement, and health and wellness.

Hyatt said that MINA's essay clearly illustrated how it helps (or can help) make the local community a place where employees want to work, guests want to visit, where neighbors want to live, and investors want to invest. The letter also effectively stated how partnership with Hyatt would help advance its mission, vision, and goals.

MINA's selection was based on the votes cast by the hotel's leadership committee.

More details on the anniversary gala dinner will be released in the near future.

MINA is the leading conservation non-profit in the Mariana Islands. MINA's mission is "working to sustain the natural environment to ensure the island way of life," and its vision is that "the people of the Northern Marianas, through community engagement and responsible stewardship, will thrive in a healthy, natural environment that supports a vibrant island economy fostered by sustainability, cultural values, traditions and principles.

Hyatt Regency Saipan, a 316-room hotel, is located in Garapan, the island's shopping and entertainment district. ***(Mark Rabago)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CCA board meeting today

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its meeting today, Oct. 22, 2013, at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. ***(PR)***

CPTAB membership meeting today

The Commonwealth Public Transportation Advisory Board wishes to inform the general public that it will be holding its 2013 4th regular membership meeting today, Oct. 22, 2013, from 9am to 1pm, at the Office of the Governor's conference room, first floor, Administration Bldg., Capital Hill, Saipan. This meeting is open to the public and interested individuals may submit written or oral comments on any specific item on the agenda. For more information, call COTA at 664-2292 or 2276 or email at cota@gov.mp. ***(PR)***

FOA membership meeting today

The Friends of the Arts will be holding its first membership meeting of the 2014 season today, Oct. 22, at the Taste of India Restaurant in Garapan, starting at 6:30pm with entertainment starting at 7pm. The cost for the meeting, which includes a buffet dinner, is $15 for adult members of FOA (age 12 and above) and guests, $8 for children (age 4-12) and no charge for children younger than 4 years. Email Frank Gibson at flgibson@yahoo.com if you plan to attend. ***(PR)***

Air Force training on Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following times:

- Oct. 22, from 8pm to 1am
- Oct. 23, 8pm to Oct. 24, 1am
- Oct. 25 from 10am to 3:30pm

The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated above. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. ***(PR)***

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

(01) FRONT OFFICE MANAGER
- At least over five years experience in medical billing, electronic health records and practice partner record.
- English Language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Must be familiar with medical terminology, ICD-9, coding of medical procedure and diagnosis
- Must be certified pharmacy technician
- Must be proficient in computer skills, spread sheet and general accounting skills
- College graduate

(01) ULTRASOUND/X-RAY TECHNICIAN
- Must be over five years experience in electronic health and practice partner records
- Experience/knowledge with practice partner software in electronic health records usage.
- Must hold a bachelor of science in Radiologic Technology
- Licensed by the Medical Profession Licensing Board, CNMI
- At least five years or more experience or related field.

(01) CLINIC/YARD MAINTENANCE
- Preferred skills and experience
- Building Construction/Renovation experience
- Experience solar maintenance pv models
- Must have a valid CNMI drivers license
- Must be flexible with time schedule

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at Saipan Health Clinic at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on 10/31/2013 at 4:30 p.m. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2903 ext. 124.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Claims Officer
College graduate with a Bachelor's Degree preferably in Business Management with 10 years experience in a non-life insurance company particularly in the Claims Department. Must be knowledgeable in automotive, marine, casualty, worker's compensation, and property damage adjusting and estimation. Responsible for the evaluation, monitoring and adjustment of claims in accordance with the company practices and procedures. Must also be knowledgeable on reinsurance and have the ability to interpret statistical information for reinsurance purposes. Must have excellent customer service skills, time management, written and oral communication skills. Must be computer literate and proficient in MS Office and Oracle-based programs.

General Manager
Bachelor's Degree plus 10 years experience in the insurance business, at least 5 years of that as a general or operations manager in an insurance company. Must possess experience in managing technical underwriting including actual undertaking of risk analysis through risk survey and/or inspections of huge risks. Must have experience in managing reinsurance transactions with reinsurance brokers and reinsurers which involves undertaking of PML, Catastrophe Modeling, Setting Company Risk Retention. Must also be experienced in managing insurance claims handling including setting up of loss reserves in overseeing Claims Manager functions.

Supervisor, Underwriting & Claims
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree plus 5 years of work experience in insurance business particularly in claims, underwriting, and reinsurance. Must also have knowledge, skills and ability to analyze and manipulate enterprise risk management. Must possess above average communication skills, a working knowledge of MS Word and Excel and the insurance software Geniisys. Must be willing to take cross-functional assignments and adapt to changes necessary for the effective functioning of the organization's business operations.

Accountant
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Accounting with at least 5 years work-related experience in insurance financial management and payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivable, payable, and payroll management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system, Geniisys and MS Word and Excel software. Payroll accountant must possess experience in electronic processing of timesheets, allotments, and standard and government deductions. Must be able to work under time pressure and flexible hours.

System Analyst
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science/Technology or Management Information Systems with a minimum 4 years experience in computer systems and programming. Must possess a broad knowledge and experience in computer systems, strong problem-solving and analytical skills, and the ability to think logically. Must have knowledge in Oracle server and programming, and a strong experience in insurance database and program – Geniisys and an in-depth experience in insurance business operations. Must have good interpersonal and communication skills.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Insurance Company Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, October 31, 2013.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc.
Job Vacancy Announcement

(02) REGISTERED NURSE
- Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Must hold a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- One to five years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English Language skills-proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Certified Nephrology Nurse (CNN)-Preferred
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine
- Experienced with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.
- Must be flexible with time schedule.

(02) BUILDING MAINTENANCE & REPAIR
- Performs a variety of preventive maintenance and repair tasks on the facilities equipment, including some of the more complex repair tasks.
- Performs preventive maintenance and makes routine repairs to electrical, plumbing, security systems, solar panel maintenance and construction with solectrica inverter experience
- Performs rough and finish carpentry work and takes the lead on projects such as building and paneling walls and partitions.
- Maintains and repairs various equipment
- Prefer skills training in electrical, plumbing and building trades areas
- Extensive work experience with hemodialysis/maintenance/ plumbing and construction is required.
- High school graduate or equivalent
- Must have a valid driver's license

(01) WATER TREATMENT TECHNICIAN
- Must be able to perform task which may at first glance not appear difficult but required a high degree of knowledge and experience to properly operate and maintain the system.
- Operational knowledge of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems
- Knowledge of the theory of fluid dynamics
- Understand the mathematical relationships and common formulas of basic water treatment and distribution systems.
- Know the specific operations of the water treatment and distribution systems unique to a dialysis unit.
- Be familiar with infection control of hemodialysis facilities
- Be familiar with safety and life safety policies
- Pass the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency test for certified water treatment and distribution operators level II.
- Understand the plumbing code and plumbing techniques.
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques for working with pressure vessels
- Be able to demonstrate proper plumbing techniques especially when working with pvc
- To accept and perform all other duties as may be assigned.

(01) COMMERCIAL CLEANER
- Operates various mechanized cleaning equipment, such as vacuums, polishers, buffers, etc.
- Maintain facility in a sanitary and infection-free condition through washing, cleaning and replacement of equipment and furnishings.
- Requires working in damp, dusty and dirty areas. Must clean up human waste and other body fluids, as required.
- Responsible for disposal of trash, waste, and other disposable materials.
- Must handle various cleaning solvents and chemicals that is required by Medicare.
- Damp dust furniture, light fixtures, window, etc.
- Empty trash containers daily.
- Wet mop floors and bathroom daily. Damp mop all corridor floors, lobby and others daily.
- Report any needed repairs immediately.
- Check entire area for spills, water, etc., periodically, especially in patients' areas and lobby.
- Use safety precautions in all housekeeping services
- Is required to clean employee's house prior to and post occupancy.
- Is required to maintain and clean in an orderly manner at Business, Dr.'s., Accounting, Dietician, and Clinic Manager's Offices.
- Must be able to work flexible hours.
- Must have own transportation.

Interested applicant must submit application or resume to St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on 10/31/2013 at 4:00pm. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2903 ext. 124.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Management Accountant (2)
College degree with accounting or financial management major and 5 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 3 years experience in analyzing, interpreting and providing sound financial information. Must be adept in monthly financial statement preparation and consolidation, cash flow forecasting, budgeting, and providing financial projections. Must have excellent communication, organizational and self-management skills. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft Excel, Power Point and Project. CPA not required.

Housekeeper (4)
High school diploma or GED Certificate. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

Administrative Assistant (5)
Associate's Degree. Must be proficient in typing and good at written and oral communication. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service and interpersonal skills at work. Can work flexible hours. Must be available to work on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

Business Operations Manager
Graduate of a 4-year degree course and with a minimum of 8 years of professional progressive management experience and at least 4 years of general management experience in property management and building maintenance. Knowledge of lease negotiations plus financial and quality management is required. Must have a solid track record in accomplishing business objectives.

Air conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic
Associate's Degree or Vocational School graduate. Must have at least 2 years experience installing, servicing, and repairing air conditioning and refrigerating systems in residences and commercial establishments. Must have his/her own reliable transportation and must be able to work flexible hours.

Electrician
High school diploma or GED certificate. Must have at least 2 years experience installing, maintaining, and/or repairing electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Must have knowledge of electrical codes, intercom and electrical control systems. Must be able to work flexible hours.

General Maintenance Worker (11)
High school diploma or GED certificate or any combination of education, training, and experience which demonstrates ability to perform carpentry, plumbing, glass replacement, painting, masonry, grounds keeping, appliance repair, and electrical wiring; standard practices and use a variety of hand and power tools used in the maintenance and repair of building facilities. Must be able to work flexible hours. Can work outdoors.

Network Administration Manager
Associate's degree in any computer science, information engineering or other computer technology related areas. Must have at least 5 years of sound experience in local and wide area networks management and administration including system configuration, setup, troubleshooting, planning, designing, implementation, and user support. Must have knowledge in MS Exchange Email Server.

Engineering Manager
Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering with at least 5 years of progressive management experience. Ability to successfully develop, implement and manage projects including the ability to provide effective leadership is a must. Adeptness in cost estimation and knowledge of quality control and federal regulations in environmental and occupational safety hazards is required. The duties of this job require constant outside travel and exposure to outside weather conditions. Must be able to provide his/her own transportation and must have a valid driver's license.

Sales Officer
Associate's Degree in Sales or Marketing and at least 3 years work related experience are required. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Must be able to prepare management and sales reports and is proficient in various MS office software operations. Can work flexible hours. Must be available to work on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

Legal Secretary (2)
Associates degree and at least 2 years work related experience in a legal office. Proficient in case and document management software, Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Power Point and Outlook. Familiar in preparation and filing of pleadings and legal documents.

IT Manager
College degree with a major in computer science, computer technology or information engineering or other related areas is required. At least 5 years of progressive management experience and 8 years of sound and all-around IT technical experience is required. Must have well-developed written/oral and management skills and with a strong background in all IT hardware, software and communication business requirements.

Computer Technician
Associate's degree in any computer science, information technology or other related areas. Must have at least 3 years of sound experience in electronics and communication systems with emphasis on the repair of computer equipment and installation of telephone cables/systems. Must be knowledgeable in different software applications and in hardware troubleshooting. Must be able to work flexible hours.

Graphic Designer
Associate's degree in Fine Arts, Graphic Design or other related areas. Minimum of 3 years work experience in creating graphics to meet specific commercial or promotional needs. Proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign is a must. Strong organizational and self-management skills, including the ability to multi-task and prioritize are required. Can work flexible hours, depending on demand.

Programmer Analyst (2)
Associate's degree in computer science or computer programming and at least 3 years of work-related experience in a professional Microsoft Windows environment. Strong practical knowledge in relational databases management particularly in midrange RDMS environment such as SQL server. Knowledge in windows-based and web-based programming is a must.

Accounting Manager
College degree with financial management major and 5 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 3 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage people. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft software.

Accounting Supervisor
A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a focus in accounting and/or finance. 2-3 years of progressive responsibility supervising a minimum of 3 associates. CPA/CPA candidate a plus. Audit experience also preferred. Must have knowledge with the use of SAP R3 FICO System and SAP Fixed Asset Module. Microsoft Office proficiency with advanced knowledge of Excel is a must.

Accountant (2)
Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years work related experience in financial management and/or payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivables and payable management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system and MS Excel, Word and Power Point software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, October 31, 2013.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

GHRA president to speak at Tourism Summit

The Marianas Tourism Education Council has invited Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association president Mary P. Rhodes to speak at next week's MTEC/MY WAVE (Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) Tourism Summit.

This year's summit will be held on Oct. 30, 2013, at Saipan World Resort with the theme "Tourism is Everybody's Business 24/7 in the 670." The summit aims to educate students on the Northern Marianas tourism industry and engage their active participation in tourism.

Rhodes

"This year, the MTEC education outreach focused on the various careers in the hospitality industry," said MTEC chair Vicky Benavente. "Ms. Rhodes' vast experience will provide more opportunities for the students to learn about jobs in the tourism and travel business."

Rhodes is in her seventh year as the president of the GHRA, which is a private, nonprofit trade association that promotes the highest standards of service and quality in the industry while improving business community relations and publicizing the value and benefits of the island's visitor industry to Guam's economy. Rhodes oversees GHRA programs that involve GHRA committees such as Engineering & Environmental, Human Resources & Training, Safety & Security, Public Relations & Marketing, Food & Beverage, and Housekeeping.

Benavente noted the 300 slots available for the summit are nearly full. Schools interested in sending a MY WAVE Club delegation to the summit may contact Marianas Visitors Authority community projects manager Martin Duenas at 664-3210 or mduenas@mymarianas.com to register or for more information.

In addition, schools interested in forming a MY WAVE Club for the first time may be eligible for seed money and other financial support from MTEC. ***(MTEC)***

PROCUREMENT WORKSHOP NMC

As part of its ongoing professional development activities for NMC employees, the Northern Marianas College recently hosted a workshop about new policies and procedures regarding the procurement process at the college. NMC Procurement and Property Management Office manager Anita Camacho led the workshop with employees from various NMC offices and departments on campus.

High surf advisory out

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management issued a high surf advisory yesterday that remains in effect until 6pm Wednesday.

Hazardous surf of 9 to 11 feet along west and north facing reefs last night was expected to fall slowly but remain hazardous today, Tuesday. Surf is expected to fall below hazardous levels tomorrow.

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management is advising the public to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along north and west facing reefs as rip currents will be life threatening. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid boating in these conditions. If travel by boat is necessary, exercise caution, especially near reef lines and when entering or leaving harbors and inlets. ***(PR)***

Lotte pays GIAA's legal fees in fight over airport concession with DFS

GUAM (Pacific News Center)—Lotte Duty Free is paying the attorney fees for Guam International Airport in the airport's legal fight with DFS over the disputed duty free concession contract award.

GIAA general manager Chuck Ada told PNC News that Lotte "is paying for the legal services acquired through the contract, as part of the contract that was signed with Lotte." The contract between GIAA and Lotte was signed on May 18 this year.

Ada said he feels that it is a "very good part of the contract" because it saves the airport money.

However, Vice Speaker B.J. Cruz disagrees. He obtained documents from GIAA via a Freedom of Information Act and invited the media to come along to the airport to pick those documents up yesterday.

GIAA's legal counsel is the law firm of Calvo, Fisher and Jacob. The Vice Speaker says that Calvo Fisher and Jacob billed GIAA $1.3 million in legal fees during fiscal year 2013.

Cruz explained that it is his understanding that about $850,000 in legal fees has been paid by Lotte; however its not clear whether that amount is part of, or in addition to the $1.3 million. The senator says he wants the documents from GIAA to verify the figures.

Cruz pointed out that the issue of whether or not the concession contract was legally awarded to Lotte has not yet been ruled on by the courts.

And from a public policy point of view, Cruz said he does not think that it is appropriate that a private business should pay the legal fees of a government entity like GIAA. "Especially not this early" in the still ongoing legal process, said Cruz.

Ada defended the contract provision that pays GIAA's legal fees, saying he sees no conflict of interest. Lotte, he said, is "defending the contract that they were rightfully award."

DFS filed a procurement protest with the Guam Office of Public Accountability, and then brought suit in Superior Court seeking a restraining order to stop implementation of the contract.

However, the DFS complaint was dismissed by Judge Micheal Bordallo, "without prejudice" (meaning it can be refiled) after he concluded that DFS had not exhausted its remedies under Guam procurement law.

There has been no ruling yet on the merits of the DFS protest and, in an Oct. 10 release, DFS said they look forward to pursuing the merits of their case before the OPA in Guam.

DFS has not yet responded to a request for comment on this latest development.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

October 22, 2005

Power privatization effort losing steam

The Babauta administration seems to be having second thoughts about the power plant privatization program, now that it has spent millions of dollars on engine repairs. In a public briefing on the power situation yesterday, Gov. Juan N. Babauta said he was not ready to report on the status of the power plant privatization program, which was reportedly supposed to have been completed by this month. Babauta explained in an interview later that the U.S.-based consulting firm Economists.com was still evaluating the financial background of the two bidders for the $60-million contract: Telesource and Rolls Royce Power Ventures, which is represented locally by Pacific Marine Industrial Corp.

Stolen computers from WSR recovered

The Department of Public Safety has recovered the four desktop computers that were reportedly stolen from William S. Reyes Elementary School in Chalan Kanoa last weekend. In a media briefing held yesterday at the DPS Criminal Investigation Section office, the unit's commander Major Edward H. Manalili said the stolen personal computers were retrieved Thursday night. He said at around 8:40pm on Thursday, police conducted a traffic stop in Koblerville area, when a gray Toyota Camry LE, with plate number ACS 411, failed to match the DPS read out.

October 22, 2006

No need for residency for foreign investors

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Charles V. Cepeda is not sold to the government's plan to offer permanent residency to foreign investors, saying that the market is already open to qualified and serious business people. "Yes, we are opposing it [permanent residency]. The government has passed a law allowing the silver market, the retirees, to invest and stay here for five years. Why would you have a different program. What we are saying is, it should be similar," said Cepeda in an interview.

24 youth senators take oath

The 24 newly elected members of the 9th CNMI Youth Congress were sworn into office yesterday. Matthew O. Deleon Guerrero from Mount Carmel School was elected speaker. The three Northern Marianas College representatives took the three other officer seats: Edwin Diaz as vice speaker, Joseph K. Leong-Aguon as floor leader, and Lyrard B. Tenorio as legislative secretary. All of the officers, except Tenorio, are returning to the Youth Congress for a second term. The oath-taking ceremony took place at 10am in the House of Representatives chamber packed with government officials, school representatives, family members, and friends.

October 22, 2007

Labor cases decreasing, Benedetto

The filing of labor complaints has been decreasing contrary to anti-federalization proponents' fears that many alien workers who are losing jobs may file cases, even frivolous ones, just to remain in the CNMI. Federal Ombudsman Jim Benedetto in an interview with Saipan Tribune said with the federalization issue it appears that the number of labor cases in fact dropped a little bit. Benedetto said he attributes such decline to the workers who are afraid because there's so few jobs out there available.

English language proficiency and high quality teachers are focus of REL Pacific

Two reports recently prepared for the United States Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences by the Regional Educational Laboratory Pacific administered by Pacific Resources for Education and Learning focus on English language proficiency in the Pacific region and high quality teachers. English Language Proficiency Assessment in the Pacific Region, by Don Burger, EdD, Rodrigo Mauricio, and Jennifer Ryan, reports that "Using various approaches to identify English language learners, several Pacific region jurisdictions are developing English language proficiency standards and assessments aligned with those standards. Others are working on content standards, including language arts, and have expressed interest in developing English language proficiency standards but lack formal assessment mechanisms.

Public health vector control, typhoon preparedness advisory

As the CNMI prepares for this typhoon season, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. warns against an increase in mosquito populations. Mosquitoes are vectors of human and animal diseases and will need to be controlled through individual and community efforts. For this reason, the corporation urges the community to follow the guidelines below to prevent the increase of mosquitoes and prevent from mosquito related illnesses.

■ Clear areas and anything with standing water, which are ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

a) Cover boats, children's pools, etc.

b) Clean rain gutters and make sure they are flowing properly

c) Remove all trash, tires, jars, cans, bottles, and all other items that can collect water

d) Keep grass and weeds mowed to reduce breeding sites

■ Water catchments must be fitted with a screen or tightly fitted cover.

■ Wear protective clothing such as long-sleeved shirts and pants or a mosquito repellant when outdoors, especially in the early morning and at sundown. Mosquitoes are most active during these hours.

Typhoon preparedness

In case the weather intensifies to a typhoon, the corporation advises the following high-risk groups to consider the health advisories below:

■ Pregnant women who are experiencing preterm labor OR pregnant women in their 36-week gestational period.

a) Storms have been known to make pregnant women give birth earlier than their expected due date. CHCC encourages all women with a gestational age of 36 weeks and above to self-monitor and prepare for the possibility for early labor. Those who are experiencing early labor are encouraged to come to the Commonwealth Health Center prior to the arrival of a typhoon. An area has been set aside for women who are nearing their due date.

b) Contact the CHC nurse supervisor at 234-8950 for more instructions. If you will be coming to CHC, make sure you bring your identification information, a pillow, blanket, extra clothing, and other essential supplies.

■ Individuals who are on medical equipment requiring electricity (e.g. oxygen generators).

a) Individuals who are on medical equipment requiring electricity should report to CHC if they do not have a generator at home. Island-wide residential electricity should be expected to be turned off if storm conditions worsen.

■ Individuals on prescription medications and in need of medical supplies.

a) Individuals should make sure their prescription medications and medical supplies can last them for at least three days. This is especially important for patients with diabetes or chronic asthma.

Tune in to local radio stations, KSPN News, the channel 14 weather station, or the Emergency Management Office's advisories.

For more information, contact the CHC operator at 234-8950 or email chcpublichealth@gmail.com. ***(CHCC)***

Kilili: Retirees may be eligible for recalculated SSA benefits

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said that CNMI retirees now receiving a 25-percent cut in their pension as a result of the global settlement agreement in *Johnson v Inos* may be eligible for a recalculation of their social security benefits, if they are also receiving such benefits.

Pension checks issued on Oct. 15 already reflected the 25-percent cut, prompting some retirees to ask whether they could receive more Social Security benefits.

Sablan helped answer the question.

"This is because these retirees may have been subject to the Windfall Elimination Provision when their social security benefit was first calculated," he said.

The Windfall Elimination Provision lowers the social security benefit of persons who are also receiving a pension from an employer, such as the CNMI government, that did not withhold social security taxes.

"The Social Security Administration handles questions of this nature on a case-by-case basis. NMIRF pensioners, receiving social security, may want to contact their local SSA office to see if they are eligible for a recalculation of benefits," Sablan said.

Meanwhile, retirees who opted out of the settlement class no longer received pension on Oct. 15.

One of them, 56-year-old Jesus Taisague, is now suing Gov. Eloy S. Inos, the CNMI government, and the NMI Retirement Fund.

In a statement on Friday responding to the lawsuit, the governor and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider said, "Within the United States judicial system, it is every individual's right to file a lawsuit if they believe they have been wronged."

"We respect that right, but reserve further comment until after our legal counsels have had the opportunity to report back about the exact nature of Mr. Taisague's lawsuit," they said.

Saipan job fair this November

The CNMI Works! Target 2014 Task Force has set the dates of Nov. 22-23 for a job fair that will be held at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe from 8am to 2pm each day.

A total of 298 letters were mailed out to numerous companies on Saipan inviting their participation in this event.

Individuals seeking employment are encouraged to come prepared and start preparing their résumés now for submission to participating employers. They are also urged to register online with www.marianaslabor.net.

CNMI Works! Target 2014 Task Force was organized by Gov. Eloy S. Inos to address the transition called for under U.S. Public Law 110-229, which targets the phase out of all transitional workers in the Commonwealth by December 2014.

Task Force members extend their utmost appreciation to all the companies that will be participating at this job fair. For more information on the job fair, contact 664-1708/57 or 664-3196. ***(Office of the Governor)***

11 complete entrepreneurship training through CWA, NMC

NMC

The Northern Marianas College's Community Development Institute recently awarded 11 individuals for completing a "Basic Work Skills and Entrepreneurship" training sponsored by the CNMI Women's Association. In this photo are CDI course instructor and NMC Business Department chair Chavel Green, seated fourth from left; CWA chair Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro, seated far right; CDI course instructor and NMC Human Resources personnel specialist Nadia Camacho, standing sixth from left; Rep. Edmund Villagomez, standing seventh from left; and CDI program manager Les Ogumoro-Uludong, standing second from right.

The Northern Marianas College's Community Development Institute recently presented certificates of completion to 11 individuals who completed the "Basic Work Skills and Entrepreneurship" training facilitated by CDI and the CNMI Women's Association.

The aim of the training was to prepare the participants as they enter the workforce by helping them improve their skills and enhance their knowledge. Various topics were covered including communication in the workplace, work etiquette, time and stress management, résumé writing, job interviewing techniques, and entrepreneurship training.

The 11 participants who received certificates at the conclusion of the training are Josephine Kapileo, Cecil Kileleman, Cai Lockhart, Joaquina Mendiola, Cecile Katricia Nogis, Patroicinia Pua, Maria Saures, Thapa Sushila, Alyssa Tenorio, Debra Teregeyo, and Jordina Walker.

"We are glad to be part of the CNMI Women's Association's efforts to give women in the community more educational and professional development opportunities," said acting CDI director Floyd Masga. "We are also glad to be of assistance to the 11 women who completed this training as they continue to work toward their personal and professional goals."

This training was funded by the Community Services Block Grant funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services awarded to the CNMI Women's Association by the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

The CNMI Women's Association was established on April 13, 2011, with the vision of having all women fully engaged in the political, economic, and social development of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. To realize that vision, CWA strives to empower women to become successful leaders in their own families and the communities they are a part of.

The association is currently led by board chair Felicidad Ogumoro, vice chair Jovita Taimanao, secretary Juanita Mendiola, treasurer Debra Inos, and Erna Ngirongor and Florine M. Hofschneider, who manage the daily operations of the organization.

CDI is a program that offers specialized courses and customized trainings in order to meet both the professional development and personal enrichment needs of the community.

For more information about NMC's Community Development Institute, contact the CDI Office 237-6808/6809/6810 or email CDI program manager Les Ogumoro-Uludong at les.ogumoro@marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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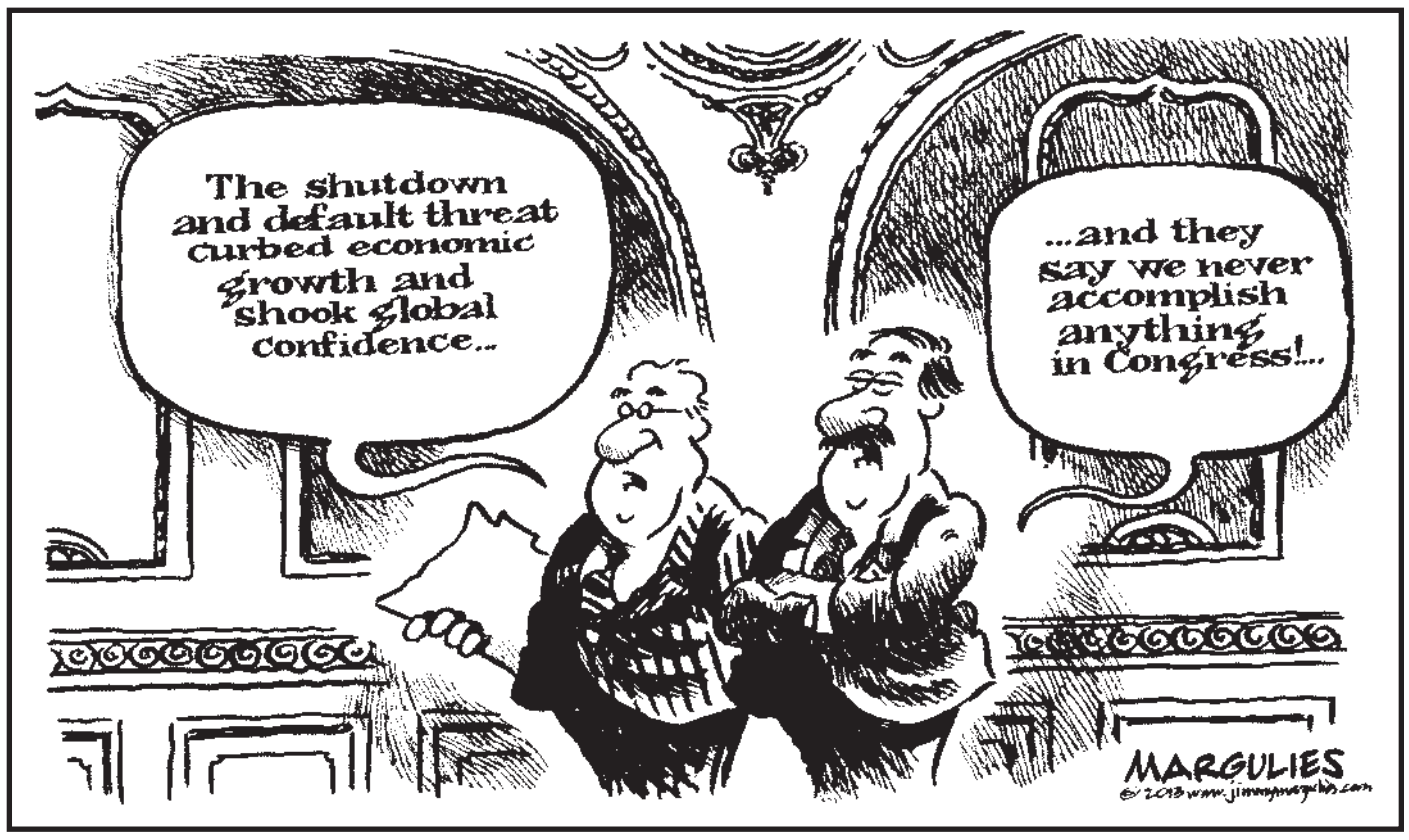
The shutdown and default threat curbed economic growth and shook global confidence...
...and they say we never accomplish anything in Congress!...
MARGULIES

EDITORIAL

Why Obamacare is a mess

If you've tried to sign up online for health coverage under the problem-plagued Obamacare exchange, our sympathies. Many people have tried to create accounts and shop for insurance under the new law. Few have succeeded. Those that have enrolled have found that the system is prone to mistakes. Some applications have been sent to the wrong insurance company.

Wait. It gets worse. Those who have managed to browse the marketplace have often been hit by sticker shock. Take Adam Weldzius, a nurse practitioner and single father from Carpentersville, Ill. He sought the same level of coverage on the exchange as he and his 7-year-old daughter have now, with the same insurer and the same network of doctors and hospitals. At best, Weldzius found, his monthly premium of $233 would more than double. If he chose a plan priced at the same level, the annual deductible would be $12,700, more than three times his current $3,500 deductible.

"I believe everybody should be able to have health insurance, but at the same time, I'm being penalized. And for what?" Weldzius asked. "For someone who's always had insurance, who's always taken care of myself, now I have to change my plan?"

Last spring, President Barack Obama said "there will still be, you know, glitches and bumps" in the rollout of the new system. But what we're seeing now is no glitch or bump. There is a growing mountain of evidence that Obamacare has fundamental problems in design and implementation.

■ Illinois officials boasted that insurance premiums here would be lower than expected. But the *Tribune* reported Sunday that 21 of the 22 lowest-priced plans offered for Cook County residents have whopping annual deductibles of more than $4,000 for an individual and $8,000 for family coverage. That's much more than many families can afford to pay.

■ The Obama administration delayed issuing major rules to set up the exchanges until after the 2012 presidential election and refused to push back the Oct. 1 launch date, lest Republicans take political advantage, *The New York Times* reported on Sunday.

■ Sloppy design of the architecture of the computer system, not simply an overload of users, created the problems that are blocking people from applying online for coverage, *The Wall Street Journal* reported last week.

"These are not glitches," an insurance executive who has participated in many conference calls on the federal exchange told the *Times*. "The extent of the problems is pretty enormous. At the end of our calls, people say, 'It's awful, just awful.'"

The Department of Health and Human Services under chief Obamacare cheerleader Kathleen Sebelius has had three years to develop this system. It has busted deadline after deadline, all the while promising that the system would be ready on Oct. 1. It has overpromised and underdelivered. The excuse? Demand was unexpectedly high, crashing servers. Unexpected? Americans have been bombarded with marketing campaigns and news stories and outreach efforts on behalf of Obamacare. And now Sebelius and Co. are shocked that people are logging in to...buy insurance? Come on, Ms. Sebelius.

We encouraged a one-year delay in the law. We recognize that's not going to happen. Obamacare is here. It's time, though, for the Obama administration to level with Americans about

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Can a biologist's research shed any light on what's happening in DC?

By JOHN KASS
Chicago Tribune

John Kass is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune. *Readers may send him email at jskass@tribune.com.*

As our politicians in Washington stopped devouring each other for just a few days, I decided to reach out to an expert.

A man who studies extinction, and is wise in the ways of aggressive and docile species that eat meat.

Jonathan Pruitt, biologist, is an assistant professor of behavioral ecology at the University of Pittsburgh. He doesn't study politicians, per se. He studies eight-legged creatures, some poisonous, with hair on their backs and mouths that open sideways: Spiders.

There are about 42,000 species of spiders. Of that number, only 25 species are social, meaning spiders that raise young in colonies and work together.

His radical experiment in these "social spiders" should be immediately funded, even in these days of the sequester.

"I basically give each spider a little personality test and then see how they do in different psychological challenges," he said Wednesday in a telephone interview from his laboratory, which, naturally, contains spiders. "And these spiders make a society—they make a giant colony together where they operate a division of labor."

In Pruitt's experiment, he took a particular spider species, the cobweb weaver spiders, related to black widow spiders, and paired them off.

He put the dociles with the dociles and the aggressives with the aggressives. He also put together a group of dociles and aggressives.

Then he studied them for seven years. He watched them live and interact and breed. He observed how they grabbed helpless creatures and ate them, just like humans.

It turned out that the docile (let's call them "good") spiders quickly created large productive colonies with many little spider kids. And the aggressive spiders (the "bad" spiders) had fewer spider children and smaller colonies. The medium spiders (let's call them "kinda like people") with aggressive and nonaggressive traits, had medium-sized colonies.

What Pruitt found was that at the most productive colonies, other spiders showed up, to hang out, uninvited. He didn't use the scientific term "hang out." He used the term "infiltrate."

"They're social parasites," he explained of the infiltrators, who were attracted to the spider colony by pheromones. They stole food, and attacked and fed on the colonists.

The passive or "good" spiders were so gentle that their colonies were overrun and destroyed by infiltrators. And the aggressive or "bad" spiders never got much going, but at least they survived.

Meanwhile, the "kinda like people" spider colony—with aggressive and nonaggressive traits—was able to survive extinction.

So it takes all kinds?

"It's kind of a feel-good method at the end. It sounds like a children's book, but your intuition is probably right. It takes all kinds," Dr. Pruitt said. "If we have too many aggressives, then the group has too much infighting and frequently they miss out on important resources.

"If you have too many dociles, yeah, everybody gets along, everything is going along amicably until you have a serious challenge in front of you, Some foreign species or some foreign entity."

Eureka, I thought, and told an editor, who made a face and asked, in the manner of most Americans:

"Is this analogous to my career?"

It very well may be analogous, if you pay taxes.

What's truly amazing is that Pruitt now believes his model allows for the study of "the rise and fall of entire lineage of organisms based on who started it. And that's seven years downstream."

Who wouldn't be interested in extinction? Doctors want certain infectious diseases to disappear. The agriculture industry hopes the same for pests. Others are interested in the hopes of saving certain species from extinction.

Still others hope to save the republic, although they're outnumbered by docile and aggressive spiders who don't know what that word "republic" really means.

"Now we can manipulate the factors that can drive extinction and because we can see it happening in the field over and over, we can basically get at this in a way that only math could do before. Now we can do it with a real animal."

Like those two-legged creatures who once lived free but have taken to printing cash to pay for their gorging and now want to extend the debt ceiling?

Pruitt realized this was getting political. He played along in a nonpartisan, purely scientific way.

"You can absolutely analyze. ... I'm not trying to say that passive individuals are meant to die. But when they're at odds, when they're in competition with another population, another tribe or a group of people who have at least a very small group of aggressive individuals, it's good."

He mentioned a female politician who may seek the presidency, but asked me not to use her name: "She's supermanipulative and kind of aggressive, but actually I want her on my side. I would rather her work for my country (colony) than somebody else's."

And what of another faction—a minority considered too aggressive by political scientists—that issues warnings that the colony won't survive if the docile spiders keep printing cash and spending and spending?

"They are very, very aggressive. They do not back down," Pruitt said. "Now we're involved in the infighting issue, which happens in the spider societies, too, when you have too many aggressive individuals and they won't back down. They actually lose resources."

When a spider society is about to become extinct, they just keep doing what they're doing. The dociles don't become aggressives, and the aggressives don't become dociles. They're spiders, and

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EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

On Food Day, let's commit to healthier children

By DANIELLE NIERENBERG and LILIA SMELKOVA
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Oct. 24 is Food Day, a time to reflect on the foods we—and our kids—eat.

There are 17.9 million food insecure households, 3.9 million of whom have children. Yet, more than one-third of U.S. children and adolescents are overweight or obese. Ironically, food insecurity often contributes to obesity.

So does lack of proper education about food and nutrition. On average, U.S. students get less than four hours of food education per year. Millions of kids aren't learning about the importance of fresh, nutritious food at home or at school, making it almost impossible for them to be healthy adults.

To make matters worse, fast food and soft drinks are in greater supply—and cheaper—than ever before. The combination of aggressive advertising campaigns by fast food companies and the cheapness and accessibility of low-nutrient, high-caloric products has proven, unfortunately, to be extremely effective. A study by the U.S. Department of Agriculture found that 30 percent of children and adolescents between the ages of 4 and 19 in the U.S. consume fast food every day!

The World Health Organization has said that marketing junk food to kids is "a public health threat," noting a strong connection between children's exposure to junk food marketing and their consumption of high-fat and processed foods.

As a counter to this, in kitchens, schoolyard gardens and cafeterias all over the world, parents, teachers and students are finding opportunities to learn how to grow, cook, process and share fresh, nutritious food. By providing students with fresh, nutritious foods, educational institutions can teach healthy eating habits in the most direct way possible.

The Kitchen Community in Chicago and Denver, for example, is not only providing children with fresh produce in lunchrooms, but also actually teaching them how to grow fruits and vegetables themselves. Their learning gardens instruct students about how to grow natural food, which is then incorporated into their own school cafeteria menus.

And KIDS Can Make a Difference is teaching middle- and high-school students about the societal problems that cause hunger and poverty, and what they can do to solve them.

In New York, some restaurants have teamed up with the New York Coalition for Healthy School Food for the Cool School Food project, which designs and tests plant- and legume-based school cafeteria menus in both Ithaca and New York City.

As part of the federally run AmeriCorps Network, FoodCorps service members work with local organizations to enhance the level of nutrition education in schools, engage students directly with their food through school garden projects and coordinate farm-to-school programs that bring local farmers and educators together to transform cafeterias into educational environments.

It's time to cultivate the next generation of eaters, farmers, scientists and policymakers for a more sustainable food system.

Danielle Nierenberg is co-founder of Food Tank: The Food Think Tank ((www.FoodTank.org). Lilia Smelkova is the Food Day campaign manager ((www.FoodDay.org)..

OBAMACARE

From Page 10

what's happening here. It's time to stop blaming Republicans and start talking about what needs to change.

The administration can do one thing—apparently on its own—to spare many Americans. It can delay the requirement that everyone buy insurance by March 31 or pay a penalty. Federal officials already have granted a one-year reprieve to the mandate that most employers provide insurance to their workers or pay a penalty.

A delay in the individual mandate would not be a special favor to American consumers. It's a matter of fairness.

A one-year hiatus would give everyone a chance to take a hard look at the pricing of these plans, to see if consumers could get more affordable options without sacrificing coverage.

There are more problems. People who have individual insurance coverage are finding that Obama's oft-repeated promise—"if you like your health care plan, you can keep your health care plan"—is just not true. They are being told by insurers that their existing plans expire on Dec. 31 and they must choose new coverage. They're learning that insurers managed to offer lower-cost plans by narrowing the networks of hospitals and doctors that are available or by upping the out-of-pocket expenses. Unless people are careful in selecting coverage, they may be surprised to find they have to pay much more for out-of-network care to go to their doctors or get treated at the best hospitals. Federal officials argue that they'll work out the kinks in the system in plenty of time for people to sign up by Dec. 15 for coverage that begins Jan. 1. Yes, the techies might be able to work out the computer network problems by then. But that's not a given.

The deeper problems of cost and coverage in Obamacare are going to require an admission by the administration that this government management of the health care market is extraordinarily complicated and will be very costly for many people. The law has to change.

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BIOLOGIST

From Page 10

when their colonies die off, they're just simply gone.

But the two-legged meat eaters?

Unlike spiders, when they die off, they at least have the decency to leave campaign slogans behind.

Like the ones that promised "fiscal responsibility" so the colony would survive.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Political infestation

Poor leaderships, compliancy, and mismanagement in politics constitute a political infestation, contributing to millions of dollars in revenue loss in the CNMI. Political infestation is similar to termite infestation. Termite infestation is responsible for millions of dollars in property damage and losses. These infestations threaten lives, health, and the economy if not treated.

The administration is a classic example of a political infestation. The infestations are the governor's failure to remit employer's contribution to the Retirement Fund, his participation in making what is illegal to be legal by way of Public Law 15-15 (suspending government contributions for two years), his failure to pay the hotel occupancy and alcohol container taxes to the NMI Retirement Fund, passing a law to insulate his administration from any obligation to pay any money judgment entered by a CNMI court, issuing an executive order to dissolve the Retirement Fund and placing it under the governor's control to easily put his hand in the cookie jar, and disregarding constitutional mandates and laws. These infestations are costing the CNMI millions of dollars in lost revenue and damages. This is the same administration that promised us "Better Times," only this time with a different cover, promising "This is IT" and millions of dollars in liabilities and deficits!

Some active DB members asked me what will be the effect of my lawsuit on their refunds. I wholeheartedly encourage active DB members to withdraw their contributions; it's their money! Public Laws 17-82 and 18-02 allow active DB members to withdraw their contributions. It's their right to receive their contribution under these laws! It is beyond my understanding why Gov. Inos and the NMI Retirement Fund failed to recognize the right of active DB members under these two laws and to timely refund their contributions. It took an extortive and coercive Betty Johnson settlement agreement to pressure the 18th Legislature to approve a resolution that will not be troublesome to the Betty Johnson lawyers. Is the Betty Johnson settlement agreement more supreme than our CNMI laws? Now that active DB members will finally be receiving their rightful refunds, it is now "water under the bridge." My lawsuit will not in any way affect DB members' refunds and I hope the 18th Legislature will challenge the constitutionality of the Betty Johnson settlement agreement before a taxpayer's lawsuit is before them.

I filed my lawsuit to assert my constitutional right to my pension and to protect our CNMI Constitution from being watered down. Some retirees asked me if my lawsuit can help class members get back their 100 percent pension. The Betty Johnson settlement agreement is very clear on how class members are to be treated. I opted out because I have a right to 100 percent of my pension. I still believe in our CNMI government system but not those who currently run it and they should be held accountable! Our government is still contractually obligated to pay 100 percent of our pension. It is our right!

Jesus I. Taisague
Koblerville, Saipan

True lies

In my previous letters about the Northern Marianas College, I stated that an honest review of Dr. Hart's leadership would reveal many examples of her failings. Often Dr. Hart was aware of the failings but chose to hide them, deflect blame, or simply ignore them. The few examples here are only the tip of what is in store. While the failings of Hart's leadership encompasses every facet of the institution, the one that is presently most pertinent are the falsehood that remained in the October 2012 visiting team's report after the check for fact, the reaction to their discovery, and the resulting response to them.

The WASC action letter concerning the October 2012 visiting team's report immediately raised questions within the NMC community. Interestingly enough, few bothered to read the entire report; the college community had been instructed by Dr. Hart (who was off island went the report was received) to focus on the action letter. Misgivings about Hart's integrity led several individuals to read the entire report. While much of the report did not surprise, the falsehoods contained in Standard III.A and Standard IV.A were astonishing. The report stated that non-existent Board of Regents Policies 500-504 (Human Resource procedures for internal management) and Board of Regents Policy 206 (board policy procedures) were actually in effect. More astonishing was the fact that these policies remained in the report after Hart had it checked for fact; the policies were never in effect. The falsehoods in Standard III.A were unanimously rejected by College Council on Dec. 14, 2012, while the one in Standard IV.A faced a similar fate in the BOR Policy Committee meeting of March 2013.

In both cases the presence of these policies in the report placed the institution in a good light. However, College Council expressed grave concerns that these falsehoods violated WASC Eligibility Requirement 21, which states the "institution will comply with Commission requests, directives, decisions and policies, and will make complete, accurate, and honest disclosure. Failure to do so is sufficient reason, in and of itself, for the Commission to impose a sanction, or to deny or revoke candidacy or accreditation. (34 C.F.R.§668 – misrepresentation.)"

When College Council forwarded the discovery of the falsehoods to Dr. Hart, pointing out the potential of it being a violation of Eligibility Requirement 21, Hart's reply was "How so?" Hart then initiated a stonewalling process to squelch the potential ill effects. One of Hart's first reactions (with support of NMC's HR director) was to try to explain the falsehoods as actually being partially the truth! Dr. Hart further resisted taking any action by stating that she had already spoken to the president of WASC, who said there was nothing to worry about. When members of College Council resisted this explanation, Hart continued to refuse to accept any interpretation of the situation but her own. After several tense meetings with College Council, Hart finally relented and agreed to notify WASC. The manner in which she did so demonstrates a further lack of integrity.

In her letter to WASC dated May 31, 2013, Hart glosses over the truth, delicately avoiding how the falsehoods would have gone unreported in hopes they go unnoticed. Instead, Hart focuses on the NMC Accreditation Reaffirmation Team as having done the bulk of the review. The resulting four-page letter was full of near meaningless grammatical and content corrections that served as a blind for hiding the true nature of the falsehoods and what they represent. While Hart did not mention that each of these policies eventually being rejected outright, she did mention that she had to address plagiarism in NMC's previous reporting to WASC in a December 2012 letter.

Dr. Hart's awareness of the majority of failings of her leadership is further tinted by the fact that she chose to hide them, deflect blame, or simply ignore them. These failings include every aspect of the institution and have had a negative effect on each of them. The events surrounding the falsehoods that remained in the October 2012 visiting team's report after the check for fact exemplify the disingenuousness of Dr. Hart's leadership.

Kyle Podziewski
San Vicente, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northwest winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northwest winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

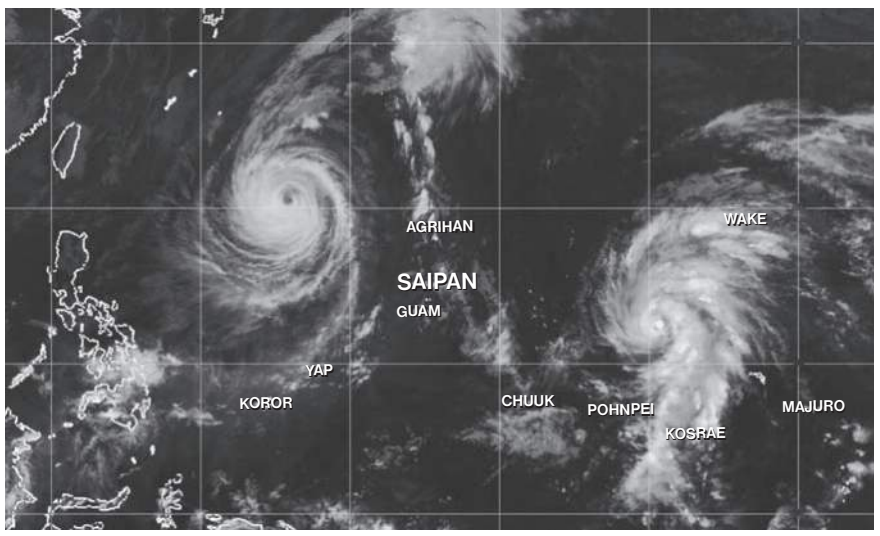
Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼77
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼79
Yap	Showers	▲86	▼78
Chuuk	Showers	▲86	▼77
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼74
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼74
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼58
Beijing	Sunny	▲65	▼41
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲84	▼73
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼70
London	Showers	▲63	▼58
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲77	▼56
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼77
Melbourne	Rain	▲62	▼52
Miami	Thundershowers	▲90	▼74
New York	Sunny	▲67	▼50
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼64
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲70	▼57
Pusan	Windy	▲72	▼61
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲75	▼63
Salem	Sunny	▲74	▼41
San Francisco	Sunny	▲73	▼53
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲71	▼52
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼60
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲69	▼51

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Francisco (26W) is centered over 700 miles northwest of Guam near 20N136E with maximum sustained winds of 120 mph. Numerous showers and thunderstorms are found up to 200 miles from the center. For more information on Francisco, refer to bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN33 PGTW and public advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ33 PGUM. Tropical depression 27W is northeast of Typhoon Francisco near 28N142E which is outside of the discussion area. Tropical Storm Lekima (28W) is centered north-northeast of Pohnpei near 12N161E which is over 1100 miles to the southeast of the Marianas. Lekima is moving northwest at 10 mph with maximum sustained winds of 45 mph. Numerous showers and thunderstorms are occurring within 180 miles of the center and convective bands are in the southwest northeast and south direction of the center out to 420 miles. One such band is located just north of Pohnpei and another located between Pohnpei and Kosrae. For more information on Tropical Storm Lekima 28W, refer to bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and public advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. A small area of convergence into Lekima contains scattered showers and thunderstorms within 100 miles of a point just south of Chuuk near 6N153E. Another line of convergence into Francisco is located between Koror and Guam bringing scattered showers within 100 miles of a line from 6N133E to 10N140E and ending near 14N145E. A rather large area of scattered showers northeast of Lekima is being generated by enhanced upper-level divergence and increased low-level convergence in the trade-wind flow from 18N to 25N between 165E and 175. This includes the region around Wake Island.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:32 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
11:17 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
5:01 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
9:51 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:10 AM	5:53 PM
Wednesday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Thursday	6:11 AM	5:52 PM
Friday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Saturday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:24 PM	8:42 AM
Wednesday	9:13 PM	9:33 AM
Thursday	10:01 PM	10:21 AM
Friday	10:50 PM	11:08 AM
Saturday	11:39 PM	11:52 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:10pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:45pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5074/PR111	11:20am	4:45pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
0Z604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
0Z607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
PR110/UA5072	7:35am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	7:55am	12:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
0Z746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
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  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

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  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
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Business

Work begins on Calif. bullet train, locals angry

FRESNO, California (AP)—Trucks loaded with tomatoes, milk and almonds clog the two main highways that bisect California's farm heartland, carrying goods to millions along the Pacific Coast and beyond. This dusty stretch of land is the starting point for one of the most expensive U.S. public infrastructure projects: a $68 billion high-speed rail system that would span the state, linking the people of America's salad bowl to more jobs, opportunity and buyers.

Five years ago, California voters overwhelmingly approved the idea of bringing a bullet train to the most populous U.S. state. It would be America's first high-speed rail system, sold to the public as a way to improve access to good-paying jobs, cut pollution from smog-filled roadways and reduce time wasted sitting in traffic while providing an alternative to high fuel prices.

Now, engineering work has finally begun on the first 30-mile (48-kilometer) segment of track here in Fresno, a city of a half-million people with soaring unemployment and a withering downtown core littered with abandoned factories and shuttered stores.

Rail is meant to help Fresno, with construction jobs now and improved access to economic opportunity once the project is finished. But the region that could benefit most from the project is also where opposition to it has grown most fierce.

"I just wish it would go away, this high-speed rail. I just wish it would go away," says Gary Lanfranco, whose restaurant in downtown Fresno is slated to be demolished to make way for rerouted traffic.

AP

In this photo taken Tuesday, July 16, 2013, an Amtrak conductor checks the time as the passenger train takes on passengers in Hanford, Calif.

Such sentiments can be heard throughout the Central Valley, where roads are dotted with signs such as: "HERE COMES HIGH SPEED RAIL There goes the farm." Growers complain of misplaced priorities, and residents wonder if their tax money is being squandered.

Aaron Fukuda, a civil engineer whose house in the dairy town of Hanford lies directly in one of the possible train routes, says: "People are worn out, tired, frustrated."

Voters in 2008 approved $10 billion in bonds to start construction on an 800-mile (1,300-kilometer) rail line to ferry passengers between San Francisco and Los Angeles in 2 hours and 40 minutes, compared with 6 hours by car now during good traffic. Since then, the housing market collapsed, multibillion-dollar budget deficits followed, and the price tag has fluctuated wildly—from $45 billion in 2008 to more than $100 billion in 2011 and, now, $68 billion.

Political and financial compromises led officials to scale back plans that now mean trains will be forced to slow down and share tracks in major cities, leading critics to question whether it will truly be the 220-mph (355-kph) "high-speed rail" voters were promised.

The high-speed rail business plan says trains will run between the greater Los Angeles area and the San Francisco Bay Area by 2029. But construction has been postponed repeatedly, and a court victory this summer by opponents threatens further delays; a Sacramento County Superior Court judge said the state rail authority's plan goes against the promise made to voters to identify all the funding for the first segment before starting construction.

Even the former chairman of the California High-Speed Rail Authority, Quentin Kopp, has turned against the current project, saying in court papers that it "is no longer a genuine high speed rail system."

In the Central Valley, there is intense distrust of the authority, which has started buying up property, land and businesses, some of which have been in families for generations.

At the dimly lit Cosmopolitan Cafe, office workers line up alongside farmers and paramedics to order sandwiches as waitresses expeditiously call out order numbers. Four decades' worth of memorabilia and yellowing newspaper restaurant reviews line the faux-wood walls in the space that Lanfranco has owned for most of his life.

Lanfranco says the sum he was offered to buy the property does not come close to replacing the space he owns, debt-free. The adjacent parking lot—a rare commodity—is packed with pickup trucks and cars each day at lunchtime. Lanfranco declined to say how much he was offered, and the offers are not public record.

Hug leads to personnel warning

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics. *Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.*

QUESTION: I was recently written up for inappropriate touching even though I did absolutely nothing wrong. When I was walking down the hall, a co-worker came towards me with open arms and said "Hi, darling!" Since she obviously wanted a hug, I hugged her.

My manager witnessed this interaction and subsequently gave me a written warning in the presence of our human resources representative. But nothing happened to my co-worker. If hugging is considered improper, then I think both of us should have been warned.

Now I have a statement in my personnel file which makes me look like a pervert. Although I understand that touching can be a problem, I still don't see why it's wrong to reciprocate when someone asks for a hug. What do you think?

ANSWER: Something is definitely amiss here, but it's hard to know precisely what. Under normal circumstances, a brief, mutually welcome hug between friendly colleagues would not warrant disciplinary action. And even if your company has an exceptionally strict policy, both parties would logically be expected to receive the same penalty.

On the other hand, your account does raise a few questions, the most obvious being why your gregarious colleague failed to come to your defense. Had she simply informed the HR manager that she initiated this contact, there would have been no reason to single you out for punishment.

Also, because a written warning for a hallway hug does seem rather extreme, I have to wonder whether you may have had previous offenses. Unless the transgression is unusually serious, a written reprimand would typically be preceded by one or more verbal warnings.

Nevertheless, if these events transpired exactly as you describe, you should take steps to remedy the situation. Ask your hugging partner to explain the circumstances to a higher-level HR manager and request that your warning be rescinded. If you have no prior history, her testimony should be sufficient to restore your good name.

Q: Some of my direct reports feel that I take too much credit for their work and don't give them enough exposure to upper management. As head of the department, I do have to make frequent project reports to the executive team, but I always mention my staff's contributions. How can I convince them that I'm not trying to hide their accomplishments?

A: Since the staff presumably doesn't hear your executive updates, a good first step might be to simply tell them about the credit-sharing comments. But if they are doing outstanding work, then perhaps you should look for additional opportunities to increase their visibility.

For example, do you ever invite key staff members to accompany you to executive meetings? Do you occasionally allow direct reports to make project presentations themselves? In written summaries, do you highlight specific employee accomplishments? When sending complimentary emails, do you copy your superiors?

You might also ask the staff for their input and implement any reasonable ideas. To retain talented people, managers must always be willing to share the spotlight.

Republicans making 'Obamacare' their next target

WASHINGTON (AP)—"Obamacare" escaped unharmed from the government shutdown Republicans hoped would stop it, but just as quickly they have opened a new line of attack—one handed to them by the administration itself.

While Congress was arguing, President Barack Obama's plan to expand coverage for the uninsured suffered a self-inflicted wound. A computer system seemingly designed by gremlins gummed up the first open enrollment season. After nearly three weeks, it's still not fixed.

Republicans hope to ride that and other defects they see in the law into the 2014 congressional elections. Four Democratic senators are facing re-election for the first time since they voted for the Affordable Care Act, and their defeat is critical to GOP aspirations for a Senate majority.

Democrats say that's just more wishful thinking, if not obsession.

Although Obama's law remains divisive, only 29 percent of the public favors its complete repeal, according to a recent Gallup poll. The business-oriented wing of the Republican party wants to move on to other issues. Americans may be growing weary of the health care fight.

"This is the law of the land at this point," said Michael Weaver, a self-employed photographer from rural southern Illinois who's been uninsured for about a year. "We need to stop the arguing and move forward to make it work."

It took him about a week and half, but Weaver kept going back to the healthcare.gov website until he was able to open an account and apply for a tax credit that will reduce his premiums. He's not completely finished because he hasn't selected an insurance plan, but he's been able to browse options.

It beats providing page after page of personal health information to insurance companies, Weaver said.

Under the new law, insurers have to accept people with health problems. Weaver is in his mid-50s, with high blood pressure and high cholesterol, but otherwise in good health. He says those common conditions made it hard for him to get coverage before.

Microsoft pulls Windows update to fix problems

NEW YORK (AP)—Microsoft has pulled a Windows update from its website after it caused some customers' devices to crash.

The company said it removed the RT 8.1 update from the Windows Store during the weekend.

In place of the update, Microsoft posted an apology for the problem and said it's trying to resolve the situation quickly. The company says it will give updates as soon as possible. It says the problem affected only a limited number of users, some of whom had difficulty downloading the update.

Microsoft says RT 8.1 is an operating system for tablets and light, thin personal computers. It only runs built-in apps or apps downloaded from the Windows Store.

Nation

Study: 15 percent of US youth out of school, work

WASHINGTON (AP)—Almost 6 million young people are neither in school nor working, according to a study released Monday.

That's almost 15 percent of those aged 16 to 24 who have neither desk nor job, according to The Opportunity Nation coalition, which wrote the report.

Other studies have shown that idle young adults are missing out on a window to build skills they will need later in life or use the knowledge they acquired in college. Without those experiences, they are less likely to command higher salaries and more likely to be an economic drain on their communities.

"This is not a group that we can write off. They just need a chance," said Mark Edwards, executive director of the coalition of businesses, advocacy groups, policy wonks and nonprofit organizations dedicated to increasing economic mobility. "The tendency is to see them as lost souls and see them as unsavable. They are not."

But changing the dynamic is not going to be easy.

The coalition also finds that 49 states have seen an increase in the number of families living in poverty and 45 states have seen household median incomes fall in the last year. The dour report underscores the challenges young adults face now and foretell challenges they are likely to face as they get older.

A young person's community is often closely tied to his or her success. The Opportunity Nation report tracked 16 factors - Internet access, college graduation rates, income inequality and public safety among them - and identified states that were doing well for its young people.

Topping the list of supportive states are Vermont, Minnesota and North Dakota. At the bottom? Nevada, Mississippi and New Mexico.

"Their destiny is too often determined by their ZIP code," said Charlie Mangiardi, who works with Year Up, a nonprofit that trains young adults for careers and helps them find jobs.

"We have the supply. We don't have a lack of young people who need this opportunity," Mangiardi added.

Just look at some of the nation's largest cities. Chicago, Houston, Dallas, Miami, Philadelphia, New York, Los Angeles, Atlanta and Riverside, Calif., all have more than 100,000 idle youth, the Opportunity Nation report found.

"Often times they lack the social capital in life," Mangiardi said. "There's a whole pool of talent that is motivated, loyal and hardworking." They just can't get through an employer's door, he added.

For Obama, a frustrating health care rollout

AP

Thgis Oct. 17, 2013 file photo shows President Barack Obama speaking in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington. Administration officials say about 476,000 health insurance applications have been filed through federal and state exchanges, the most detailed measure yet of the problem-plagued rollout of President Obama's signature legislation.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Last week, President Barack Obama gathered some of his top advisers in the Oval Office to discuss the problem-plagued rollout of his health care legislation. He told his team the administration had to own up to the fact that there were no excuses for not having the health care website ready to operate on Day One.

The admonition from a frustrated president came amid the embarrassing start to sign-ups for the health care insurance exchanges. The president is expected to address the cascade of computer problems Monday during an event at the White House.

Administration officials say more than 476,000 health insurance applications have been filed through federal and state exchanges. The figures mark the most detailed measure yet of the problem-plagued rollout of the insurance market place.

However, the officials continue to refuse to say how many people have actually enrolled in the insurance markets. And without enrollment figures, it's unclear whether the program is on track to reach the 7 million people projected by the Congressional Budget Office to gain coverage during the six-month sign-up period.

The first three weeks of sign-ups have been marred by a cascade of computer problems, which the administration says it is working around the clock to correct. The rough rollout has been a black eye for Obama, who invested significant time and political capital in getting the law passed during his first term.

The officials said technology experts from inside and outside the government are being brought in to work on the glitches, though they did not say how many workers were being added.

Officials did say staffing has been increased at call centers by about 50 percent. As problems persist on the federally run website, the administration is encouraging more people to sign up for insurance over the phone.

The officials would not discuss the health insurance rollout by name and were granted anonymity.

Despite the widespread problems, the White House has yet to fully explain what went wrong with the online system consumers were supposed to use to sign up for coverage.

Administration officials initially blamed a high volume of interest from ordinary Americans for the frozen screens that many people encountered.

Kennedy's vision for mental health never realized

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—The last piece of legislation President John F. Kennedy signed turns 50 this month: the Community Mental Health Act, which helped transform the way people with mental illness are treated and cared for in the United States.

Signed on Oct. 31, 1963, weeks before Kennedy was assassinated, the legislation aimed to build mental health centers accessible to all Americans so that those with mental illnesses could be treated while working and living at home, rather than being kept in neglectful and often abusive state institutions, sometimes for years on end.

Kennedy said when he signed the bill that the legislation to build 1,500 centers would mean the population of those living in state mental hospitals—at that time more than 500,000 people—could be cut in half. In a special message to Congress earlier that year, he said the idea was to successfully and quickly treat patients in their own communities and then return them to "a useful place in society."

Recent deadly mass shootings, including at the Washington Navy Yard and a Colorado movie theater, have been perpetrated by men who were apparently not being adequately treated for serious mental illnesses. Those tragedies have focused public attention on the mental health system and made clear that Kennedy's vision was never fully realized.

The legislation did help to usher in positive life-altering changes for people with serious illnesses such as schizophrenia, many of whom now live normal, productive lives with jobs and families. In 1963, the average stay in a state institution for someone with schizophrenia was 11 years. But only half of the proposed centers were ever built, and those were never fully funded.

ACROSS THE NATION

5 from Pa. die as motorcycles, SUV crash near Md.

WAYNESBORO, Pa. (AP)—A local coroner on Sunday identified five Pennsylvania residents as the victims of a horrific crash involving two motorcycles and an SUV near the Maryland state line. All four people traveling on the motorcycles died, as did Marjorie Smith, 68, of Johnstown, who was a passenger in the SUV, according to Franklin County coroner Jeffrey Conner. The motorcyclists were Douglas Hoffer Jr., 32, of Quarryville; Colleen Nesbitt, 27, of Gap; and David Russell, 67, and Michelle Russell, 53, both of Mount Joy. The crash happened Saturday afternoon in the south-central Pennsylvania community of Washington Township, not far from Waynesboro.

Officials: Cyanide killed potential Bulger witness

BOSTON (AP)—The Massachusetts medical examiner's office determined that cyanide poisoning killed an alleged extortion victim of Boston gangster James "Whitey" Bulger who had hoped to testify at Bulger's trial, prosecutors said Sunday. The medical examiner's office concluded that Stephen Rakes, 59, of Quincy, died of acute cyanide toxicity in July and ruled his death a homicide, according to MaryBeth Long, a spokeswoman for the Middlesex district attorney's office. Rakes' business associate, William Camuti, 69, of Sudbury, is charged with attempted murder and other crimes for allegedly poisoning Rakes' iced coffee. Camuti has pleaded not guilty.

Police: 2 dead after Mich. senior center shooting

DETROIT (AP)—Two women were shot and killed Sunday at a senior center in Detroit and a third resident of the facility was taken into custody in an apparent domestic dispute, police said. The shooting happened after the 65-year-old suspect had an argument with his girlfriend that led to the end of their relationship, police said in a news release. They said the man went to his apartment in the center during the evening hours, retrieved a rifle and started looking for two other residents. Police said he found the first woman, a 54-year-old friend of the ex-girlfriend, and shot her once. They said he then found the second woman, a 65-year-old, and shot her multiple times.

Escaped Fla. prisoners grilled: Who helped you?

PANAMA CITY BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Back in custody after using forged documents to escape their life sentences, two convicted killers were being grilled on Sunday by law enforcement authorities who said they expect to make more arrests in a case that has given both court and corrections officials in Florida a black eye. Among the questions being posed to Joseph Jenkins and Charles Walker: Who forged the papers? Who helped you run from police? What other prisoners have gotten away with this? Who was coming from Atlanta to whisk you out of Florida? "I can tell you, there will be more arrests," Florida Department of Law Enforcement Commissioner Gerald Bailey told a news conference Sunday.

Asia

Winds, heat keep wildfire risk high in Australia

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Firefighters battling some of the most destructive wildfires to ever strike Australia's most populous state were focusing on a major blaze Sunday near the town of Lithgow that stretched along a 300-kilometer (190-mile) front.

Authorities warned that high temperatures and winds were likely to maintain heightened fire danger for days in New South Wales state.

The fires have killed one man, destroyed 208 homes and damaged another 122 since Thursday, the Rural Fire Service said.

Firefighters have taken advantage of milder conditions in recent days to reduce the number of fires threatening towns around Sydney from more than 100 on Thursday night to 61 on Sunday, Rural Fire Service spokesman Matt Sun said.

Fifteen of these fires continued to burn out of control, including the blaze near Lithgow, west of Sydney, which was given the highest danger ranking by the fire service. Authorities expect that blaze will continue to burn for days and have advised several nearby communities to consider evacuating ahead of worsening weather conditions.

Sun said temperatures in the fire zone on Sunday exceeded 25 degrees Celsius (77 degrees Fahrenheit), with winds reaching 20 kilometers per hour (12 miles per hour) and humidity dropping to 30 percent.

A New South Wales Rural Fire Service volunteer puts out a fire in the town of Bell, Australia, on Sunday, Oct. 20, 2013. AP

"It's not as dire as it could be, but it's certainly challenging work for firefighters and expected to get worse," Sun said.

The Defense Department, meanwhile, said it was investigating whether there was any link between the Lithgow fire, which started Wednesday, and military exercises using explosives at a nearby training range on the same day.

"Defense is investigating if the two events are linked," the department said in a statement on Saturday.

Sun said the cause of the fire was also under investigation by fire authorities and would be made public when determined.

Arson investigators are examining the origins of several of more than 100 fires that have threatened towns surrounding Sydney in recent days.

Rural Fire Service Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons said the weather was forecast to deteriorate further over Monday and Tuesday.

"The worst of that weather will be probably culminating on Wednesday, but (there won't be) much relief in the intervening period," he told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

The wildfires have been extraordinarily intense and early in an annual fire season that peaks during the southern hemisphere summer, which begins in December.

Wildfires are common in Australia, though they don't tend to pop up in large numbers until the summer. This year's unusually dry winter and hotter than average spring have led to perfect fire conditions.

In February 2009, wildfires killed 173 people and destroyed more than 2,000 homes in Victoria state.

Challenger wants Maldives' president to resign

MALE, Maldives (AP)—The leading candidate in the Maldives' troubled presidential election demanded Sunday that the president resign and allow the parliamentary speaker to take over the government and oversee a fresh poll.

Speaking to reporters a day after police stopped officials from holding a scheduled revote of last month's election, Mohamed Nasheed accused President Mohamed Waheed Hassan of working with the country's defense minister and police chief to obstruct the vote.

The move by the police to stop Saturday's revote came as the latest blow to this Indian Ocean island nation, which has seen much upheaval in its first five years as a democracy. Failing to elect a president by Nov. 11, when Hassan's term ends, could bring about a constitutional crisis in the country.

The Supreme Court earlier this month annulled the results of the Sept. 7 election, agreeing with a losing candidate that the voters' list had made-up names and names of dead people. Nasheed led that election with more than 45 percent of the vote, but failed to secure a majority for an outright win.

Nasheed said Sunday that he had lost all hope that an election will ever be held during Hassan's tenure, accusing Hassan, Defense Minister Mohamed Nasim and Police Chief Abdulla Riyaz of wanting to stay in power without having a new vote.

"It is very evident that they have been obstructing the election and it is also very evident the game they are trying to play," Nasheed told reporters, adding that Hassan, Nasim and Riyaz want to take Maldives into a "constitutional void" and stay in power for a long time.

"We believe that the only prudent way forward and a possible solution is for Dr. Waheed (Hassan) to resign and the speaker of Parliament to take over government until Nov. 11, for the election to be held under his tenure and not under the unelected ... rule of Dr. Waheed," Nasheed said.

Presidential spokesman Masood Imad denied Nasheed's allegation, and said Hassan would not step down.

"I don't think anybody in this country doesn't want an election. The president more than anybody else wants to have an election," Imad said.

Hassan said Saturday that he did not intend to stay in power even if no president was elected by the Nov. 11 constitutional deadline, even though the Supreme Court had ruled that it would allow such a provision. He opted out of the election after losing badly in the annulled first round, getting just 5 percent of the vote.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon was "deeply concerned by the delay of the rerun" of the Sept. 7 election and called on all parties "to participate in a credible, peaceful and inclusive" revote as soon as possible.

"The aspirations and the will of the Maldivian people were expressed in the 88 per cent participation of eligible voters in the 7 September election," the statement said. "The Secretary-General strongly believes that the legitimate will of the people should not be denied. "

Hassan stepped in Saturday to mediate in the crisis, proposing to the Elections Commission that a new vote be held Oct. 26. The commission, however, has not announced a date yet.

Nasheed's supporters started civil disobedience protests Saturday, occupying main roads in the capital, Male, and on at least one other island to protest the cancellation of the revote.

China formally arrests rich activist businessman

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese authorities have formally arrested a wealthy Chinese businessman who was a key supporter of a civil society group that's been the target of a wide-ranging crackdown this year.

Attorney Chen Youxi, who represents venture capitalist Wang Gongquan, said Monday that Beijing prosecutors informed him that they've approved Wang's arrest.

Wang was detained in mid-September on suspicion of "gathering crowds to disturb public order."

The vaguely defined charge has been used to prosecute many members of a loosely organized movement that's been pushing for greater public participation in Chinese civil society on political issues.

Supporters estimate that around 30 members of the group known as the New Citizens Movement have been detained or arrested across the country since March.

Beijing prosecutors did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Lao Airlines crash probe hones in on black box

BANGKOK (AP)—Investigators in Laos said they picked up underwater signals Sunday that they believe are coming from the black box of a passenger plane that crashed into the Mekong River last week, but that strong currents were thwarting attempts to find it.

The Lao Airlines ATR-72 turboprop plane crashed Wednesday after getting caught in a heavy storm as it approached Pakse Airport in southern Laos. It struck a riverbank and then plowed into the swift-running Mekong. All 49 people on board are presumed dead.

As of Sunday, 41 bodies had been recovered, investigators said.

French air crash investigators began working at the crash zone on Saturday along with a team from the aircraft manufacturers, bringing much-needed technical expertise to the operation in one of Asia's poorest countries. Navy divers from Thailand are also helping the search.

Yakua Lopangkao, director-general of Laos' Department of Civil Aviation, said that investigators using sonar and other equipment Sunday picked up signals from underwater and narrowed their search to the area "we believe might be the location of the black box."

"But the search teams still cannot retrieve it because the water was deep and muddy and the current was very strong," he said. "At this point, we cannot find anything."

According to the airline, 44 passengers and five crew members were on the flight. The passengers included 16 Lao nationals, seven French, six Australians, five Thais, three Koreans, three Vietnamese and one person each from China, Malaysia, Taiwan and the United States.

Heavy smog hits north China city, flights canceled

BEIJING (AP)—Severe smog has reduced the visibility of a northern Chinese city to less than half a football field.

Authorities in Harbin near the Russian border said primary and middle schools and some highways were closed Monday. At least 40 flights from its international airport had been cancelled or postponed. The official Xinhua News Agency said some buses also stopped running.

The density of fine particulate matter used as an indicator of air quality was more than 24 times higher than the level considered safe by the World Health Organization.

Also Monday, Patti Austin's manager said the American jazz singer had been forced to cancel a concert in the capital, Beijing, on Friday evening after suffering a severe asthma attack likely linked to air pollution.

World

Suicide bombing in Iraq kills 35 in busy café

BAGHDAD (AP)—A suicide bomber slammed his explosive-laden car Sunday night into a busy cafe in Iraq's capital, part of a day of violence across the country that killed 45 people, authorities said.

The bombing at the cafe in Baghdad's primarily Shiite Amil neighborhood happened as it was full of customers. The cafe and a nearby juice shop is a favorite hang out in the neighborhood for young people, who filled the area at the time of the explosions.

The blast killed 35 people and wounded 45, Iraqi officials said.

Violence has been on the rise in Iraq following a deadly crackdown by security forces on a Sunni protest camp in the northern town of Hawijah in April. At least 385 have died in attacks in Iraq so far this month, according to an Associated Press count.

In a village north of Baghdad, a car bomb targeted a police officer's house, killing his father, brother and five nephews, officials said. Six others were wounded in the blast, which happened when the officer was not at home.

Security forces meanwhile foiled an attack on the local council of the western town of Rawah by five would-be suicide bombers disguised in police uniforms, said Muthana Ismail, head of the local security committee.

AP

A woman grieves for her sister, who died in a bombing Friday, while inspecting the site of the car bomb attack in Baghdad, Iraq, Saturday, Oct. 19, 2013.

Ismail said two attackers were shot while the rest blew up themselves up outside. Two police officers and an official were killed, while 20 people were wounded, he said.

Rawha is about 330 kilometers (200 miles) northwest of Baghdad.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for Sunday's attacks, though car bombings and gun assaults are favorite tactics of al-Qaida's local branch. It frequently targets Shiites, whom it considers heretics, and those seen as closely allied to the Shiite-led government in Baghdad.

Hospital officials confirmed the casualty figures for all attacks. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to journalists.

Official: South Sudan rebels kill 41 in gun attack

JUBA, South Sudan (AP)—Rebels in South Sudan killed at least 41 people and wounded scores in a gun attack in a remote part of the country's restive Jonglei state, a regional official said Sunday.

The attack on Sunday morning is believed to have been carried out by rebels loyal to militia leader David Yau Yau helped by youth from his Murle tribe, according to Hussein Maar, the acting governor of Jonglei.

"Preliminary reports we got indicate that 41 people got killed and 63 got wounded, some of them critically," he said. "Some of the injured are in very bad condition and they will most likely die tonight or later."

He said the U.N. Mission in South Sudan airlifted some of the wounded to the state capital, Bor, and to the country's main hospital in the capital, Juba.

The attackers were armed with automatic weapons and shot indiscriminately. They also stole thousands of cattle, according to Maar.

South Sudan peacefully broke away from Sudan in 2011 after a brutal civil war and years of effort by U.S. leaders, but since then the country has seen multiple bouts of ethnic violence in Jonglei. The country is awash in weapons -many held by civilians and security forces accused of poor discipline.

Watchdog groups have recently noted some rights violations allegedly committed by South Sudan's armed forces as they attempt to quell Yau Yau's rebellion. Many Murle have been killed and others have fled to the bush in recent violence.

Yau Yau, a former colonel in South Sudan's military, first rebelled against Juba after he failed to win a parliamentary seat in the 2010 general elections, accusing the ruling party of rigging the elections. In 2011, he accepted an amnesty offer by President Salva Kiir and returned to Juba. But last year he fled to Khartoum and started a rebellion against Juba in his home region of Pibor.

South Sudan officials accuse Sudan of supporting Yau Yau's rebellion in order to block South Sudan's plans to build an oil pipeline through Ethiopia, charges denied by Khartoum.

Greek Gypsies worried about child abduction case

FARSALA, Greece (AP)—Gypsies stroll about prefabricated homes in their camp, many of them smiling and seemingly carefree. But there is worry and resentment here.

Their community is at the center of a child abduction case, with a Gypsy, or Roma, couple accused of abducting a blonde, blue-eyed girl who is thought to be about 4 years old.

The Roma, a poor people in a country devastated by an economic crisis, try to make a living in the camp on the outskirts of the central town of Farsala by selling fruits, carpets, blankets, baskets and shoes at local markets. They say they are already considered by some to be social outcasts, thieves and beggars.

Now, they fear they will be stigmatized as child traffickers. The president of the local Roma community, Babis Dimitriou, hopes there is no backlash against the 2,000 Roma living in the community.

The case "doesn't reflect on all of us," he told The Associated Press on Sunday.

AP

Gypsy children pose for photos at a gypsy camp near the town of Farsala, some 280 km (173 miles) north of Athens, Greece, on Sunday, Oct. 20 , 2013.

A 40-year-old woman and 39-year-old man have been charged with abducting a minor after police raided the camp Wednesday looking for drugs and weapons. A suspicious prosecutor who accompanied police on the raid thought it was odd that the girl looked nothing like her parents.

DNA tests proved the couple isn't the girl's biological parents. The man and woman will appear in a court Monday. Police have launched an international appeal to find the biological parents of the girl, who is known as Maria in the camp. She is being cared for in Athens by a charity.

Many Gypsies are wary of media attention and resentful of what they say is neglect by the state. The only thing authorities have provided, they say, is the prefab houses that replaced the tents they were living in eight years ago.

What the local Roma seem keen to convey is that their community is not involved in either child abductions or trafficking.

But regional police chief Lt. Gen. Vassilis Halatsis said authorities have found "dozens" of child trafficking cases involving Bulgarian Roma in Greece.

"We know these cases exist, but they involve Bulgarians, not Greeks like us. There are no transactions involving children here," Dimitriou insists, adding that the 40-year-old woman, who had registered Maria as her own child, "cared for her even better than for her own children."

Another resident of the community, who lives with the Roma but is not one of them, takes their side.

"There is no buying and selling of children here ... The other Roma are not to blame. These are family people. After this event, the police have been searching everyone. Isn't this racist?" 42-year-old Christos Lioupis said.

But Halatsis said people take advantage of a flawed birth registration system to declare multiple children to receive state handouts.

The couple accused of abducting the girl had used multiple identities to register 14 children in three different cities, of whom only four have been identified, Halatsis said. An examination of the birthdates of the children shows that the woman, at one point, was giving birth every four months, he said. Overall, the couple received 2,500 euros ($3,420) per month in state assistance.

"We are dealing with a very unusual case. Usually, parents report a child's disappearance and we look for the children. In this case, we have the child and we are looking for its (her) parents," Halatsis said. "So far, we have had calls from France, Poland, even the United States. We are looking at each case, to see if the ages match, and if there are similar features. DNA testing will follow."

"At this point, we can't say there is a child trafficking network involved, but we are looking at this possibility," the police chief said. He added that there have been documented cases of Greek childless couples buying children of Bulgarian Roma for up to 15,000 euros (about $20,500).

Making public the names of the couple that harbored Maria would give a boost to the search for her parents, Halatsis said. But that is up to the judicial authorities.

Focus

AP

In this Oct. 8, 2013 photo, stone steps lead to the front door of the home of Marguerite Thoresen in Brisbane, Australia. Thoresen's mother, 88-year-old Cynthia Thoresen, lived at the house when she suffered a fall and then lay helpless for up to three months, screaming into the silent void of a world that had forgotten her.

Neglected old Australian woman suffers brutal fate

By KRISTEN GELINEAU
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SYDNEY (AP)—By the time the ambulance showed up to the house, the old woman's screams were, as the paramedics would later tell it, already at a 10 out of 10.

On a bed in the foyer lay 88-year-old Cynthia Thoresen, her eyes screwed up in agony, her skin covered in feces, with a broken leg gone untended for weeks.

The fact that Cynthia even lived in the house was a surprise to the neighbors. None had seen her. None had any idea she'd spent her final days in hellish pain after a fall. None knew that her daughter and caretaker, Marguerite Thoresen, had waited at least three weeks, and up to three months, before calling for help.

In the end, Cynthia Thoresen joined a large and growing cohort of elderly people across the world who live, and increasingly die, in silence, left to fend for themselves against a problem society has barely begun to notice: Elder abuse.

This type of abuse, which often includes neglect, is still so hidden that it is hard to quantify. But the broad picture gleaned from hundreds of interviews and dozens of studies reviewed by The Associated Press is clear: Tens of millions of elders have become victims, trapped between governments and families, neither of which have figured out how to protect or provide for them.

Most of the elderly live with family or at home, and researchers estimate at least 4 to 10 percent of them, and probably a lot more, are abused. Even by the lowest count, that means 30 million people.

The demographics alone show the problem is growing. By the year 2050, there will be more old people than children for the first time in history.

Australia, where Cynthia Thoresen lived, is a wealthy nation and considered progressive, but even in high-income countries, the abuse rate is 4 to 6 percent, according to the World Health Organization. And even here, the system repeatedly failed Cynthia, in life and in death.

"Nothing in the past has disturbed me like this job disturbed me," paramedic Christopher Curtis told police. "I've not seen anyone, regardless of their age, that could withstand the level of pain inflicted by a fractured femur for five seconds, let alone three weeks."

■ ■ ■

In a way, aging in today's world can be a slow slide into invisibility: Older people often say they exist in the shadows, their words dismissed, their cares unheeded.

Information on elder abuse lags decades behind research on child abuse. Only a handful of countries legally require the reporting of suspected elder abuse, compared to dozens for child abuse. In the U.S., the government passed the Elder Justice Act in 2010, compared to 1974 for its counterpart on child abuse.

The data varies wildly across cultures because researchers can't agree on who is an elder, let alone what elder abuse is. But other statistics are telling: Only one in five older people worldwide has a pension. Elders figure prominently among the more than 100 million who fall into poverty each year because of health-care expenses. And the suicide rate among men over 75 is the highest in the world.

Cynthia Thoresen's story can be pieced together through legal documents, newspaper clippings, interviews and police testimony. Marguerite Thoresen did not answer repeated requests, by phone, email and letter, for comment.

Cynthia's world began to shrink with a fall that left her dependent.

She moved into Marguerite's home in Perth, and in 2001, Marguerite applied for a government carer's benefit that came to around $500 every two weeks. Once the payments started, the government welfare agency, Centrelink, never asked for further medical updates on Cynthia, Marguerite said.

Cynthia vanished from the health care system. Medicare records show that for years she saw doctors and took prescription medications. But in 2003, Cynthia's medical treatment stopped.

Marguerite's explanation: "Well, she didn't say she was ill."

■ ■ ■

In 2007, Marguerite moved with her husband, daughter, grandsons and mother to a Brisbane suburb.

There, Cynthia's world shrank to a pinpoint.

In the 18 months Cynthia lived there, no visitors were invited inside. Cynthia did not talk on the phone or write letters. Her only other close relative, her son Thorolf, lived nearly 1,700 kilometers (1,000 miles) away, and dementia left her confused at times.

One morning, probably in late November 2008, the family found Cynthia on the floor next to a pool of liquid. Marguerite figured she'd sprained her knee and kept her in bed, with a towel underneath to soak up excrement. She said she called an ambulance on Dec. 17, 2008 because her mother had stopped eating.

She said the screaming only began when she moved Cynthia to a bed near the front door.

Up until this point, she said, her mother seemed fine.

■ ■ ■

When Cynthia arrived at the hospital, her chafed skin was covered in bedsores and feces. Her toenails were overgrown and curling. Her swollen right leg was 10 centimeters (4 inches) shorter than her left, the result of a fracture healing improperly.

Marguerite didn't ride to the hospital with her mother. She did not show up for three days.

The break appeared to be between three and 12 weeks old. The fracture was too severe and the delay in treatment too long to operate.

Cynthia died at 6:15 p.m. on Jan. 3, 2009. She was one week shy of her 89th birthday.

The coroner would not hold the inquest hearing into her death until four years later.

■ ■ ■

In Australia, as in many places, experts say the legal system is not set up to prevent, catch or punish elder abuse.

The few regions with mandatory elder abuse reporting laws—including most U.S. states, some Canadian provinces and Israel—still catch only a tiny fraction of cases. And even then, the victims rarely see justice.

Only one case out of the hundreds Diane Pendergast investigated as Queensland's Adult Guardian was prosecuted.

"People won't prosecute—whether it's police, whether it's family members—because it involves family business," she says. "Because it's private. Because there's a level of abuse that's tolerated in the community that none of us wishes was there. We all turn a blind eye."

The autopsy concluded Cynthia died from a blood clot in her lung, sparked by the leg fracture. Dr. Stephen Morrison, the medical expert, concluded Cynthia's condition and the delay in treatment was "neglectful to the point of cruelty in a distressed, demented and totally dependent patient."

Police contemplated charges of manslaughter, failure to provide the necessities of life, negligent acts causing harm, torture. But they decided the doctors couldn't say beyond a reasonable doubt that Marguerite's care had caused Cynthia's death.

So they closed the case.

The key to Cynthia's story lies with her daughter, Marguerite.

The few people who know her describe her as introverted, odd but compassionate. She took in unwanted rabbits and ran an information service dedicated to their care. In a poem on the website, Marguerite writes:

"Miserable howling pierces the night as the pet shop puppy cries a lament that nobody hears ... The solitary victim left to cry alone."

■ ■ ■

At the inquest on May 13, 2013, the coroner, Christine Clements, and the lawyer, Emily Cooper, grilled Marguerite for two hours. Through it all, she seemed detached.

The excrement? There wasn't that much. Cynthia's screams? They weren't that loud. The stench of urine? The result of her grandson r unning around without a diaper.

She hadn't accompanied her mother in the ambulance because she didn't think it was allowed. She hadn't visited for three days because her husband was too busy to join her.

Marguerite finally conceded that perhaps she should have called an ambulance a week earlier. But no sooner.

Cooper asked point-blank: Had Marguerite provided Cynthia appropriate care?

"I believe that up to that last fall, she had very good care," Marguerite replied. "I did my best."

And after the fall?

"I probably could have judged the situation better."

■ ■ ■

In the coroner's 15-page report, the word "pain" appears 30 times.

"It is an appalling thought to consider the pain endured by Cynthia Thoresen during this period when she was totally at the mercy of her daughter's inadequate regime of `care'," Clements wrote.

Marguerite's brother and sister-in-law declined interviews. Police refused to talk. Centrelink referred AP to the family and housing department, which refused to address possible changes in policy. The state attorney general referred the case to the public prosecutor's office, which also refused to comment.

From all involved: Silence.

"With elder abuse, no one wants to touch it. Any nugget of information that might lead to revelations of abuse is always swept under the carpet," says Lynda Saltarelli, founder of Aged Care Crisis, an Australian advocacy group. "As a community, we should all hang our heads in shame over the fact that it's remained hidden."

■ ■ ■

In the end, the lawyer concluded there was no evidence of malice from Marguerite, but her explanations were "quite ridiculous."

The coroner mused aloud about the troubling death of such a dependent, vulnerable elderly person, and asked, "How as a society can we help such an event occurring?"

Did it come down to changing the law? Was it about moral, family, social responsibility? Did Marguerite herself need help?

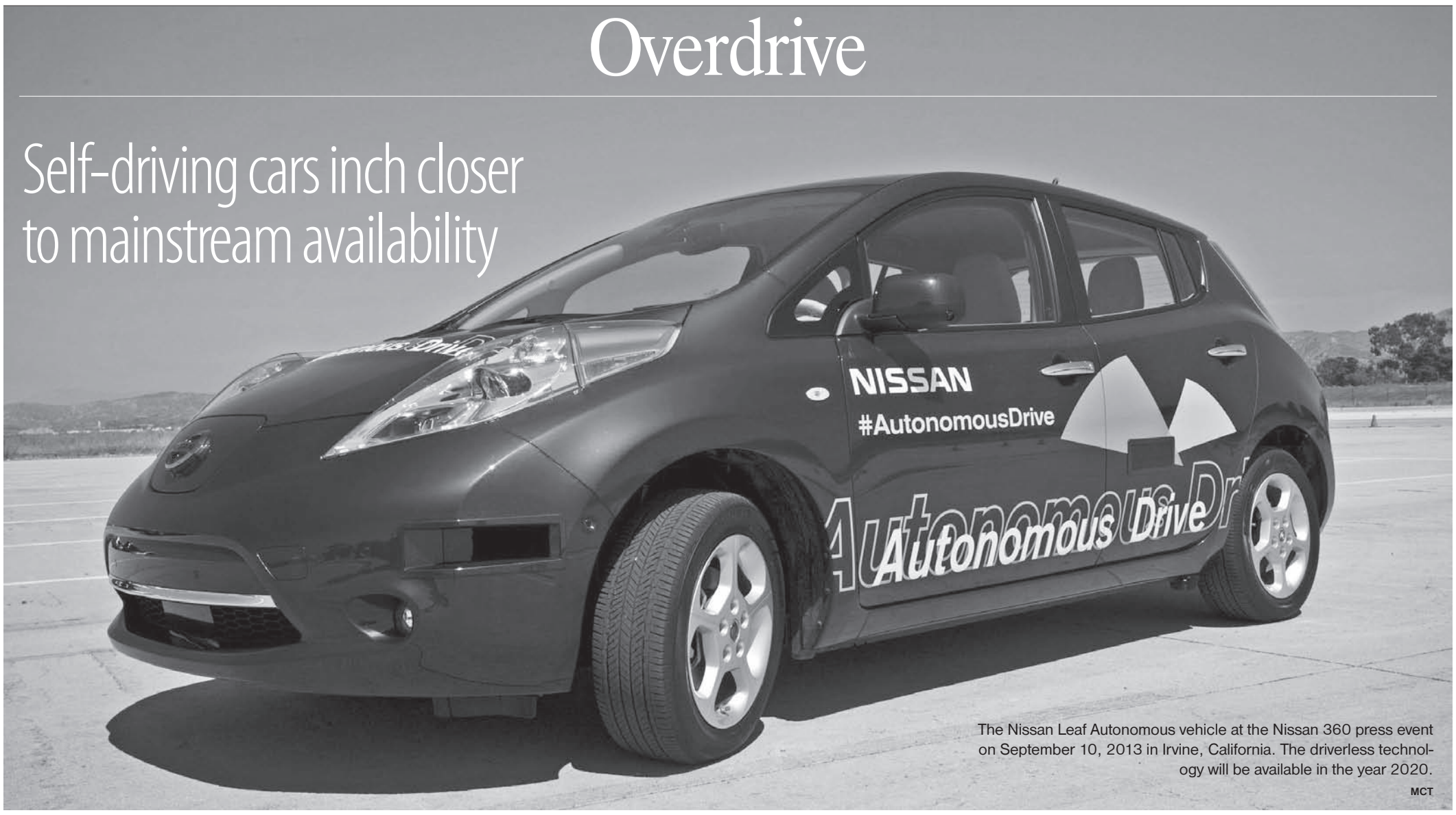
The coroner let out a small sigh. Her voice was resigned.

"I don't know."

Her words were met with silence. Marguerite had left the room.

Overdrive

Self-driving cars inch closer to mainstream availability



The Nissan Leaf Autonomous vehicle at the Nissan 360 press event on September 10, 2013 in Irvine, California. The driverless technology will be available in the year 2020.

MCT

By JERRY HIRSCH
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The Nissan Leaf is cruising at 35 mph when a pedestrian jumps into the roadway.

But there's no one at the controls. Instead, radar, lasers and cameras recognize the pedestrian—actually a dummy shoved into the road by an engineer. Computers order the car to slam the brakes and swerve, avoiding a collision.

The recent demonstration, at a former military base in Irvine, Calif., underscored just how far automakers have come in developing cars that drive themselves. Car companies including Nissan, General Motors and Mercedes have logged thousands of miles of successful tests, with an eye toward selling autonomous vehicles by 2020.

Nissan's test provided a vivid display of what's already possible: The Leaf dropped an occupant at the "store," then proceeded to drive itself down a parking row, stop for an SUV driven by a human, and back into a space.

But the technology is just one of many challenges. Convincing consumers, regulators, insurers and lawyers that autonomous vehicles are safe—and determining who pays when they crash—could wrap their future in a Gordian knot.

"It is uncharted waters," said James Yukevich, a Los Angeles attorney who defends the auto industry from product liability lawsuits. "I don't think this is an area very many people have thought much about."

Coddled by robotic chauffeurs, would people retain the driving skills to take over in emergencies? Who would be liable if an autopiloted car runs through a crowd of pedestrians: the owner or the automaker? Would insurance premiums go up or down? Would cyberterrorists figure out how to make Fords blast through school zones at 100 mph?

Are human drivers really ready to give up control?

Such thorny questions cast doubt on automakers' ambitious timelines, said Bryan Reimer, a scientist and transportation expert at MIT.

"Humans can deal relatively well with humans making mistakes, but we don't deal as well with robots making mistakes," Reimer said. "How many of us are willing to get on an airplane with no pilot—even though half the time the pilots are just sitting around watching the automation?"

It may seem inevitable that machines will one day pilot cars more safely than humans. But that will have to be proved beyond doubt before legislators and regulators give them free rein. The engineering will have to be fail-safe, said David Strickland, administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

For now, just three states—California, Florida and Nevada—allow self-driving cars on the road, and only for testing. Six states have rejected testing, and seven others are considering regulations, according to the Center for Internet and Society at Stanford University.

California has directed its Department of Motor Vehicles to craft regulations by the start of 2015, said Bernard Soriano, deputy director for the agency. The state is working with the NHTSA, the highway patrol and the state's departments of insurance and transportation to figure out the regulations.

Automakers are moving in stages toward fully autonomous cars. They started more than a decade ago with features such as electronic stability control, which assists with braking to help drivers control the car.

Some 2014 Mercedes-Benz and Acura models combine adaptive cruise control, which keeps a vehicle at a safe distance from cars ahead, with lane keeping, which automatically adjusts steering. Another system slams the brakes before an impending crash.

The next level of development: cars that assume full control under favorable traffic or weather conditions. These are the self-drivers Nissan expects to sell by 2020, said Maarten Sierhuis, director of the automaker's Silicon Valley research center. The NHTSA is working on a four-year timetable to issue regulations for such cars.

All this leads to the final frontier: vehicles that can operate completely on autopilot—even without passengers, as in automated taxis or delivery vans.

The challenge for automakers will be programming cars to navigate complicated and unexpected conditions, Sierhuis said.

"It is always the outliers—the very complex traffic situations that are hard to imagine and hard to test—that are difficult," he said.

Sierhuis plans to test the autonomous Leaf at a section of road near his Sunnyvale, Calif., office that he calls "the monster." Human drivers cause an accident a week there, a high-volume road with a highway crossing and three intersections in quick succession.

As it formulates rules, California's DMV is looking for guidance from regulations governing robotic surgery and the potential use of commercial aerial drones, which are seeing limited use for photography in Canada.

Beyond regulatory hurdles, car companies could be taking on a huge liability in selling robotic cars.

"If the driver has no control of the vehicle at all, how is it possible for that person to be negligent?" Yukevich said. "You can sit there and read the newspaper. If there is an accident, you can't be at fault."

Liability questions surrounding automated cars may be simpler than they appear, said Ryan Calo, a professor who teaches robotics law at the University of Washington. If automakers build every system in the car, then presumably the automaker will be on the hook in lawsuits over accidents or injuries—just as human drivers are now.

Moreover, by their nature, the cars would come with an array of sensors that feed into a black-box data recorder, making it easier to unravel whether man or machine is to blame in crashes. Nonetheless, lawyers and judges will no doubt shape the law surrounding self-driving cars—after they hit the road.

"The legal issues don't need to be 100 percent worked out from Day 1," Calo said. "I do think there will be enough structure in place so that this won't be the Wild West."

Less complicated is the issue of insurance. Already, automated driving technology on today's cars is reducing property and injury claims. That could mean lower premiums as automation advances, insurance officials say.

Although cars could be the first mass-marketed robots, the insurance industry has covered automated machines in many sectors.

"A modern airliner is in effect an autonomous vehicle," said Robert Hartwig, president of the Insurance Information Institute.

Consumers remain skeptical. Only 18 percent said they would buy autonomous vehicles, and 33 percent said they would feel safe on roads filled with them, according to a survey of 1,000 adults conducted in September for the Chubb Group of Insurance Cos.

In time, Sierhuis believes, people will take to autonomous cars just as eagerly as they have other technologies.

"People were surprised when we landed on Mars," he said. "But now we have robots walking around on the surface, and no one thinks twice about it."

As with many technologies we now take for granted, autopiloted cars have a long history in science fiction. "Sally," an Isaac Asimov short story first published in 1953, portrays a futuristic world where people no longer drive themselves.

"I can remember when there wasn't an automobile in the world with brains enough to find its own way home," said the main character, Jacob Folkers, who runs a retirement home for intelligent vehicles. "I chauffeured dead lumps of machines that needed a man's hand at their controls every minute. Every year, machines like that used to kill tens of thousands of people."

Toyota recalls 800,000 Camry, Avalon, Venza models for air bag fix

By JERRY HIRSCH
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Toyota will recall about 803,000 cars, including the Camry, Avalon, and Venza, because of a problem that could inadvertently set off an airbag or shut down the power steering on the vehicles.

All of the cars are from the 2012 and 2013 model years. Even the hybrid versions of the Avalon and Camry are included.

Toyota said water from the air conditioning condenser unit housing could leak onto the airbag control module in the cars and cause a short circuit. This can trigger the airbag warning light and in some instances, it will disable an air bag. In two cases, an air bag has unexpectedly deployed. There were two minor injuries, according to the automaker.

Also, the power steering assist function could become inoperable if a wire in the airbag control module is damaged.

Toyota plans to fix the problem by applying sealant and installing a cover to the air conditioning condenser unit housing seam located above the airbag control module.

Owners of the involved vehicles will be notified by mail to return their vehicles to a Toyota dealer for the repair.

Life & Style

In life and especially in death, JFK changed TV

NEW YORK (AP)—It's a measure of how long ago President John F. Kennedy died that, at the time, television was described as a young medium. With the shooting in Dallas, TV grew up.

Coverage that November weekend 50 years ago signaled, at last, that television could fulfill its grand promise. It could be "more than wires and lights in a box," in the words of newsman Edward R. Murrow, and not just the "vast wasteland" that Federal Communications Commission chairman Newton Minow had branded it just two years before.

Rising to an unprecedented challenge, television could perform an incalculable public service. It could hold the country together: Americans convened in a video vigil, gathering before an electronic hearth. Nonstop broadcasts by America's three networks provided a sense of unity, a chance to grieve together, a startling closeness to distant events.

And television, exhaustively chronicling the murder, memorial and burial, gave viewers the final scenes of a political career ushered in almost in tandem with the video age.

In life and especially in death, John F. Kennedy changed television forever.

■■■

Back in 1956, TV in its infancy had introduced many Americans to the young politician as he made an unsuccessful bid for the Democratic vice presidential nomination.

Four years later, he was running for the presidency, with TV joining him on the campaign trail.

His landmark televised debates with Republican nominee Richard Nixon helped seal the deal. Some 70 million Americans watched the first debate, with the telegenic Kennedy deemed the clear winner. Televised debates would become staples of future presidential campaigns.

AP

In this July 3, 1963 file photo, U.S. President John F. Kennedy stands at the lectern behind a production slate board during a television taping at the White House.

Once in office, Kennedy and the growing medium of television (households owning a TV had soared to 46.9 million in 1960 from 9.8 million a decade earlier, according to Nielsen) created further indelible images.

His inaugural address in 1961 was seen by millions as he urged Americans to "ask not what your country can do for you...." He charmed viewers with his televised press conferences, which were candid, off-the-cuff and sometimes talk-show-host witty.

Once, a newsman asked Kennedy if, given the burdens of the presidency, he enjoyed the job—and would he recommend it to others?

"The answer to the first is yes, and the second is no," he quipped, his face crinkled in a grin. "I don't recommend it to others—at least, for a while."

Viewers loved his wife, Jackie, too. In February 1962, all three networks—CBS, NBC and ABC—aired her tour of the newly restored White House. More than 80 million Americans tuned in.

"Television brought John Kennedy and his family into America's living rooms as had been the case with no president before," sums up historian Robert Caro, whose books include a multi-volume biography of Kennedy successor Lyndon Johnson.

Then, on Nov. 22, 1963, and in the days that followed, TV devoted itself to an all-consuming national tragedy.

"Television intensified all the emotions of those four days. It intensified the shock and horror of the murder, and then the murder of the murderer," Caro says, referring to Lee Harvey Oswald's slaying. "It intensified the grief and the mourning and the mystery. And it intensified the healing process of the funeral ceremonies."

But TV also assisted with a seldom-recognized part of the transition process, Caro adds: It reintroduced a man who for three years toiled in the margins—Johnson, Kennedy's vice president—as he was summoned to command at a crisis point of trauma and alarm.

Says Caro, "You have to recognize the relationship of television not only to the dead president, but also to the new president taking over—his reassuring, calming effect on the public because of his demeanor."

Johnson's demeanor was first on display just hours after the assassination as he arrived from Dallas at Andrews Air Force Base in Washington on Air Force One, accompanying the casket and Mrs. Kennedy, still in her blood-stained pink suit.

Clustered nearby were some 50 members of the media, including NBC News correspondent Robert Abernethy, whose primary memory is how "eerily quiet" it was as they waited.

"The reporters and crews, nobody said much—or could say much," recalls Abernethy, now 85 and still busy as the host of "Religion & Ethics Newsweekly" on PBS.

He and his counterparts from the other networks offered spare commentary on the sad scene as the newly-sworn-in Johnson stepped to the forest of microphones and, striking just the right blend of resolve and humility, told the nation, "I will do my best. That is all I can do. I ask for your help, and God's."

This was one of so many unforgettable moments that had begun, for many viewers, with the stark on-screen message "CBS News Bulletin" as the voice of anchor Walter Cronkite had cut into the lunch-hour soap "As the World Turns."

"President Kennedy has been the victim of an assassin's bullet in Dallas, Texas," Cronkite reported. "It is not known as yet whether the president survived ..."

All too soon, Cronkite, by then on camera with his eyes moist and voice choking, made his memorable pronouncement that Kennedy had died.

"We began dispatching people in all directions," CBS News Washington bureau chief William Small says. "We sent one remote to the White House, one to the Hill. We didn't have a third, so we improvised: We took a Greenbrier station wagon and put the guts of a remote (a camera and other equipment) in it and headed it toward Lyndon Johnson's house."

Like many others in command roles, Small didn't leave the bureau for the next four days, "from the shooting to the burial."

"When I finally got home," he said, "I asked my wife, `What was it like?' She said, `There was no one on the streets. Everyone was watching television.'"

Never before had the public been privy to such a seismic event beyond their own experience delivered with such you-are-there thoroughness and immediacy.

The three networks threw out regular programming and suspended commercials for blanket coverage of unfolding events in Dallas, Washington and elsewhere from Friday through Monday, a span of consecutive TV coverage not exceeded until September 2001.

'Walking Dead' inspires new convention in Atlanta

ATLANTA (AP)—Cable TV's "The Walking Dead" has inspired a new convention, a podcast, and a one-man play.

The podcast and Atlanta-based convention are the creations of Eric Nordhoff and James Frazier, also known as the "Walker Stalkers" because of a road trip they made last fall from Nashville, Tenn., to Georgia to see the AMC show being filmed.

The convention, Walker Stalker Con, is expected to draw 10,000 or more participants when it's held early next month, Nordhoff said.

"The Walking Dead" characters battle zombies known as "walkers" in the streets of downtown Atlanta and in forests, small towns and a prison south of the city.

The convention will feature appearances by some of the show's actors, including Norman Reedus, who slays walkers with a crossbow as Daryl Dixon; Andrew Lincoln, who plays Sheriff Rick Grimes, and Lauren Cohan, also known as Maggie Greene on the show.

The series returned for its fourth season this month with its biggest audience ever. The 16.1 million people who watched the Oct. 13 series premier shattered the show's previous record of 12.4 million, the Nielsen company said.

Nordhoff and Frazier are neighbors in suburban Nashville, and had gathered every Sunday in Frazier's basement to watch "The Walking Dead." They'd heard talk of a big day of filming in Senoia, the town south of Atlanta where much of the show is produced, so they got up before sunrise and made the trip to Georgia.

"It was our dream day," recalls Nordhoff, 42.

"We got to meet I think eight members of the cast," he recalls. "Somebody called us the `Walker Stalkers' when we were there."

The two decided to develop a podcast that has become popular with fans of the show. The podcast features discussions of many aspects of the show's storyline and interviews with people behind the scenes, such as special effects makeup expert and show producer Greg Nicotero.

In April, Nordhoff and Frazier came up with the idea of holding the convention, which will take place Nov. 1-3.

The show has also inspired one of its actors to stage a one-man play.

Robert "IronE" Singleton, who played "T-Dog" in the first three seasons of the show, will portray 18 characters in "Blindsided by the Walking Dead," which tells the story of how he grew up in the Perry Homes housing project during Atlanta's crack cocaine epidemic before he found work as an actor.

A key scene of "The Walking Dead" was filmed on a downtown Atlanta rooftop just a few miles from the project, where violence was ever-present during Singleton's childhood and teenage years.

"Blindsided by the Walking Dead" is a work of drama, comedy, dance, spoken word and rap. Its characters include a thug, a crack addict, Richard III from Shakespeare, God and Singleton's deceased mother.

"I think it could inspire people and save lives," said the 38-year-old actor, who also will take part in a panel discussion during the convention.

"It's about embracing truth and love through everything you do."

Carol Burnett receives top US humor prize in DC

AP

Carol Burnett is honored with the Mark Twain Prize at the Kennedy Center on Sunday, Oct. 20, 2013 in Washington, D.C.

WASHINGTON (AP)—When Carol Burnett launched her namesake variety show in the 1960s, one TV executive told her the genre was "a man's game." She proved him wrong with an 11-year run that averaged 30 million viewers each week.

On Sunday, the trailblazing comedienne received the nation's top humor prize at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Top entertainers including Julie Andrews, Tony Bennett, Tina Fey, Amy Poehler and others performed in Burnett's honor as she received the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor.

The show will be taped and broadcast Nov. 24 on PBS stations.

"This is very encouraging," Burnett deadpanned in accepting the prize. "I mean it was a long time in coming, but I understand because there are so many people funnier than I am, especially here in Washington.

"With any luck, they'll soon get voted out, and I'll still have the Mark Twain prize."

Fey opened the show with some jokes about the recent government shutdown and about fears over "Obamacare."

"Enough politics. We are here tonight to celebrate the first lady of American comedy, Ted Cruz," Fey said, referring to the Texas senator who took a prominent role during the shutdown.

Fey quickly turned to showering Burnett with accolades for opening doors for other women comedians.

"You mean so much to me," Fey said. "I love you in a way that is just shy of creepy."

In an interview, Burnett said she was drawn to comedy after realizing how it felt to make people laugh. She went to UCLA with plans to become a journalist, but she took an acting course that put her on stage.

"I played a hillbilly woman, and coming from Texas ... it was real easy for me," she said. "I just made my entrance, and I said, `I'm Baaack.' Then they exploded."

"I thought whoa! This feels good," Burnett said. "I wanted those laughs to keep on coming forever."

Few women were doing comedy when Burnett set her sights on New York. She caught a break when she was spotted by talent bookers from TV's "The Ed Sullivan Show" and was invited to perform her rendition of "I Made a Fool of Myself over John Foster Dulles."

Almost immediately, Burnett transformed Dulles, the former secretary of state, "from a Presbyterian bureaucrat into a smoking hot sex symbol," said Cappy McGarr, the co-creator of the Mark Twain Prize. "She sang that she was `simply on fire with desire' and that was really her big break."

Soon after, Burnett landed a role in Broadway's "Once Upon a Mattress," and began appearing on morning TV's "The Garry Moore Show." She never thought she could host her own show, though.

"I was more of a second banana," she said. But she loved playing a variety of characters.

CBS signed her to a 10-year contract doing guest shots on sitcoms and performing in one TV special a year, but the deal also allowed her the option of creating her own variety show and guaranteed her airtime. But five years in, CBS executives had forgotten about the idea.

She recalled one executive telling her: "You know, variety is a man's game."

"At that time, I understood what he was saying, and I was never one to get angry," Burnett said. "I said `well this is what I know, and this is what I want to do.'"

The show ran from 1967 to 1978 and included guest stars such as Lucille Ball, Jimmy Stewart, Ronald Reagan and Betty White.

Tim Conway, one of Burnett's co-stars on her show, joked that he now spends his time traveling around the country for Burnett to receive awards.

"Thank you for being such a friend," he said, "such a generous person, not with salary, but generous."

Comedian Martin Short also joined the tribute to Burnett.

"What is it about redheads on television that make us laugh so much? Carol, Lucille Ball, Donald Trump," he said.

Burnett said it's a thrill to receive the award named for humorist and satirist Mark Twain and that she's in good company with past honorees, who include Fey, Bill Cosby, Steve Martin, Lily Tomlin and Ellen DeGeneres.

Coming on the heels of the government shutdown, McGarr said it's nice to bring an "intentionally funny moment" to Washington after weeks of political drama.

"You know, serious times call for seriously funny people," McGarr said.

Burnett made a special request that rising comedienne Rosemary Watson, who does impressions of Hillary Clinton and others, be part of the show. Burnett found Watson on YouTube after receiving a fan letter and thought she was funny.

"The thing is, you pay it forward," Burnett said, "because when I got started, somebody gave me a break when I was 21 years old, and I wanted to go to New York."

Before the show, Watson said that watching Burnett shaped her life as a child. She said Burnett was not a joke teller but created funny characters.

"I do what I do because of her," Watson said. "For me, she was it. She was the female comedian I wanted to be most like."

Vicki Lawrence, a co-star with Burnett on "The Carol Burnett Show," who is perhaps best known for playing "Mama" in sketches with Burnett, said she was planning to be a dental hygienist before she knew Burnett.

"I was going to be cleaning teeth somewhere," she said, "and I guess she changed that."

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At these coffee klatches, death is on the agenda

By JIM FITZGERALD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP)—It can be tough to get a conversation going if you want to talk about the late stages of dementia, your last will and testament or the recent passing of your mother.

"When you're at a cocktail party and you lead off by saying, `What do you think about death?' it'll be, 'C'mon, man, it's a party! Chill out!' says Len Belzer, a retired radio host from Manhattan.

Belzer is among a growing number of people around the world who are interested enough in death to gather in small groups in homes, restaurants and churches to talk about it.

The gatherings, known as Death Cafes, provide places where death can be discussed comfortably, without fear of violating taboos or being mocked for bringing up the subject.

Organizers say that there's no agenda other than getting a conversation started—and that talking about death can help people become more comfortable with it and thereby enrich their lives.

"Most people walking down the street, they're terrified of death," said Jane Hughes Gignoux, 83, an author who leads Death Cafe gatherings at her Manhattan apartment. "But if you think of death as part of life and let go of the fear, you think more about living your life well."

Jon Underwood, who organized the first Death Cafe in London two years ago, said he was inspired by death discussions pioneered by Bernard Crettaz, a Swiss sociologist. The first Death Cafe in the U.S. was held in Columbus, Ohio, last year, and "It's just kind of snowballed," he said, estimating nearly 300 Death Cafes have been held in the U.S., Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Portugal, Brazil and Singapore.

One was held at a Georgia cemetery. Sessions are scheduled this week alone in California, Colorado, Florida, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Washington.

At a recent two-hour Death Cafe shepherded by Gignoux, six participants, most in their 60s, talked easily over tea and biscotti.

Kathryn Janus, 66, noted that death involves "a lot of `why?' Why did a 12-year-old with leukemia die? Why did a cat get run over?"

Marjorie Lipari, 68, talked about the death of her twin brother 16 years ago.

"What does one do with that kind of hole?" she asked. "It never occurred to me he wouldn't be with me for my whole life."

Robb Kushner, 62, discussed the differences between Christian and Jewish funerals he'd been to, noting the open casket at a Methodist wake. Alicia Evans, in her 40s, then told the tale of a man known to be a bit "scruffy" in life who was nicely tidied up by the embalmer.

"He looked so good in the coffin I wanted to give him my number," she said, cracking up the group.

Janus said afterward, "I like that we laugh." But Lipari said she wasn't sure she would ever be entirely at ease about death.

"My ego is going to be opposed to death because that's ego's job," she said. "My goal is to become comfortable with being uncomfortable about death."

Other subjects commonly brought up at Death Cafes range from financial planning to suicide. They include cremation, memorial services, loved ones' last moments and the possibility of an afterlife.

Underwood and other organizers emphasize that the discussions are not meant to be counseling. "There's no guest speaker, no materials, because we're not guiding people to any conclusions."

And while the sessions attract a wide range of religions, races and ages, organizers note there are more people 50 and above than in their 20s.

Jane Bissler, incoming president of the Association for Death Education and Counseling, a professionals' group, said she approves of the Death Cafe concept because people can speak freely about a subject that has become increasingly taboo.

"We've tried to shield our children. Some of them don't know what to do at a funeral home or how to support a friend who's lost someone," she said. "We've raised a whole generation of folks that may not be talking about death."

Depp salutes Christopher Lee at London festival

LONDON (AP)—Johnny Depp has made a surprise appearance at the London Film Festival to give a career honor to horror icon Christopher Lee.

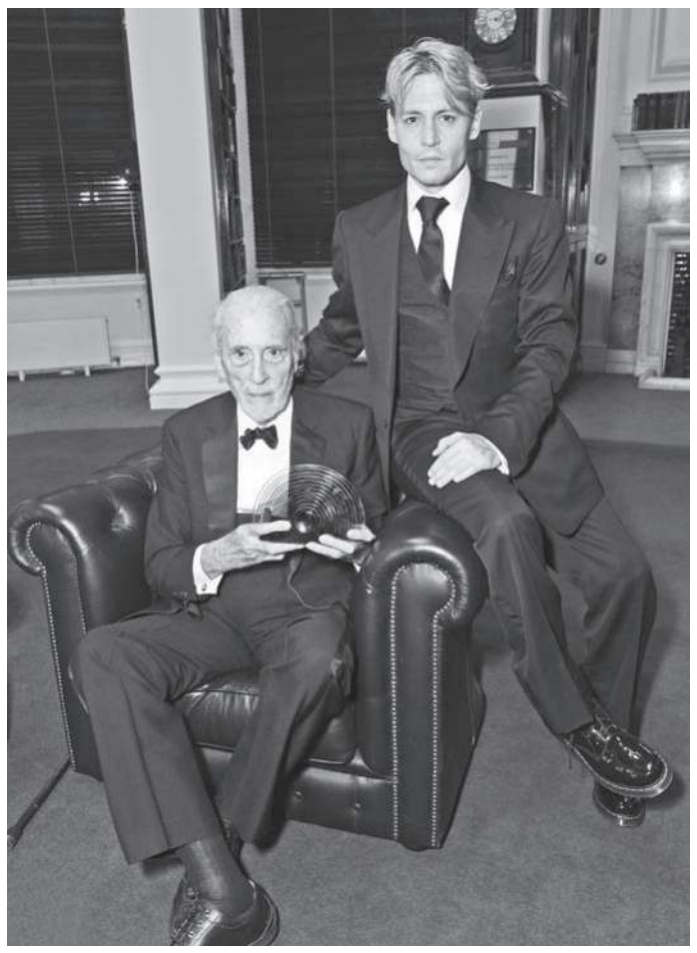
Depp called Lee "a national treasure" and "a genuine artist" as he presented the 91-year-old actor with a British Film Institute Fellowship on Saturday.

He said it had been "a childhood dream come true" to work with Lee. The two actors appeared together in Tim Burton's "Sleepy Hollow," "Dark Shadows" and "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory."

Lee returned the compliment, calling Depp one of the few younger actors "who is truly a star."

Lee's 250 movie roles include Dracula in a series of Hammer Films thrillers, Bond villain Scaramanga in "The Man With The Golden Gun," the founder of Pakistan in "Jinnah" and Saruman in "The Lord of the Rings."

During a ceremony at London's Banqueting House, the festival gave its best-picture prize to Polish director Pawel Pawlikowski for "Ida," the story of a novice nun in 1960s' Poland.



AP

British actor Sir Christopher Lee receives the BFI Fellowship award from American actor Johnny Depp at he 57th BFI London Film Festival Awards Night at Banqueting House Whitehall, on Saturday Oct. 19, 2013, in London.

Pawlikowski, best known for English-language films "Last Resort" and "My Summer of Love," said he had been warned that "making a film in Poland, in black and white," with a little-known actress would be a bad career move.

"But that doesn't seem to be the case."

The first-feature prize went to Anthony Chen's Singapore family drama "Ilo Ilo," and screenwriter Jonathan Asser was named best British newcomer for prison drama "Starred Up."

The documentary trophy went to Paul-Julien Robert's "My Fathers, My Mother and Me," a personal portrait of Europe's largest commune.

The 57th London Film Festival included 235 features, including Paul Greengrass' hijacking drama "Captain Phillips," Alfonso Cuaron's space odyssey "Gravity," Joel and Ethan Coen's folk saga "Inside Llewyn Davis" and Steve McQueen's hard-hitting "12 Years A Slave."

The 12-day festival ends Sunday with "Saving Mr. Banks," starring Tom Hanks as Walt Disney and Emma Thompson as "Mary Poppins" author P.L. Travers.

Chris Noth appears with cellos in NYC show

NEW YORK (AP)—Actor Chris Noth is appearing with a different kind of cast in New York City: eight cellos.

The star of "Law & Order" and "Sex and the City" will be at Carnegie Hall on Monday for a show called "Angel Heart."

He's narrating the family concert based on a new CD storybook. It's about a girl whose heart is broken then healed on a journey with some fantastical creatures. The story by best-selling children's writer Cornelia Funke comes with songs created for voices, cellos and mandolins by Luna Pearl Woolf.

"Things are spinning so fast these days, how do we slow it down, how do we get back to words and sounds?" Noth wondered during rehearsals.

He says children like his 5-year-old son should slow down and awaken their imaginations with just words and sounds.

The CD package, which was released last month, is narrated by actor Jeremy Irons.

The idea for "Angel Heart" was born several years ago when Woolf, the Montreal-based mother of two young daughters, wanted to tell a story using just music. She teamed with cellist Matt Haimovitz, her husband, who brought in his all-cello ensemble—Uccello.

The CD cast includes other leading musicians: soprano Lisa Delan, mezzo-sopranos Frederica von Stade and Zheng Cao (who died in February); the countertenor Daniel Taylor; and the baritone Sanford Sylvan.

The Brooklyn Youth Chorus joins Monday's performance at Carnegie's Zankel Hall.

A sort of bedtime story for the digital age, "Angel Heart" comes with an iPad app.

Stars, shows, movies honored for eco-friendliness

BURBANK, Calif. (AP)—TV's "House of Cards" and the movie "Promised Land" are being recognized for their eco-friendly messages.

The Netflix show and the Focus Features film were honored by the Environmental Media Association Saturday night at its 23rd annual awards presentation. The organization aims to channel the power of celebrity and media to promote sustainable behaviors and ecological awareness.

The HBO documentary "Gasland Part II" and reality show "VICE" also won awards, along with the ABC comedy "Last Man Standing" and Nickelodeon's "Nick News with Linda Ellerbee."

Matt Damon accepted the Ongoing Commitment award and Hayden Panetierre received the Futures award at the private event, held at Warner Bros. Studios in Burbank, Calif.

'Gravity' holds atop box office for 3rd week

NEW YORK (AP)—Star power and Oscar aspirations are reigning at the box office, where the space adventure "Gravity" and the Somali pirate docudrama "Captain Phillips" are holding off all comers.

With $31 million over the weekend according to studio estimates Sunday, "Gravity" topped the box office for the third straight week, cementing its status as the juggernaut of the fall movie-going season. It also took in another $33.5 million overseas.

The 3-D Warner Bros. movie, staring Sandra Bullock and George Clooney, has now made more than $170 million in three weeks. The film's groundbreaking visuals have been particularly popular on IMAX screens, where it made an "Avatar"-like $7.4 million on the weekend.

"Captain Phillips," starring Tom Hanks and directed by Paul Greengrass, also held in second place, taking in $17.3 million in its second week. The Sony film slid only 33 percent from its debut last weekend of $25.7 million.

The two movies and their veteran stars were able to keep three new wide releases at bay: the horror remake "Carrie" ($17 million for Sony and MGM), the Sylvester Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger action flick "Escape Plan" ($9.8 million for Lionsgate), and the WikiLeaks drama "The Fifth Estate."

1. **"Gravity,"** $31 million ($33.5 million international).
2. **"Captain Phillips,"** $17.3 million ($9.1 million international).
3. **"Carrie,"** $17 million.
4. **"Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs,"** $10.1 million ($5.1 million international).
5. **"Escape Plan,"** $9.8 million ($9.4 million international).
6. **"Prisoners,"** $2.1 million ($7.3 million international).
7. **"Enough Said,"** $1.8 million.
8. **"Fifth Estate,"** $1.7 million.
9. **"Runner Runner,"** $1.6 million ($4.2 million international).
10. **"Insidious Chapter 2,"** $1.5 million ($6.4 million international).

The last utterly flopped—a fate predicted by its subject, WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange—taking in a paltry $1.7 million for Disney. It's the worst debut this year for a film in such wide release (1,769 theaters).

"It's a very strong lineup that is not budging," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box-office tracker Rentrak, who noted the primary family choice, "Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2," is also holding steady with $10.1 million in its fourth week. "'Carrie' came into a very competitive marketplace."

In a limited release of just 19 theaters, Steve McQueen's highly-anticipated slavery epic "12 Years a Slave," starring Chiwetel Ejiofor, opened with $960,000. The exceptionally high theater average of $50,000 suggested considerable audience eagerness for the already much-lauded film.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Rentrak. Where available, latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

Woman who wants her options isn't happy with just one man

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I'm never happy with just one partner. It's not that I want to go out and have a different man every night of the week—just some options. I'm currently in a polyamorous relationship, so seeing other men is OK. But my boyfriend is now asking me why I feel the way I do because he is considering becoming monogamous again.

I crave something different from man to man and seek whatever the other one doesn't have. I have been with my fair share of guys, yet there doesn't seem to be one person who has all the qualities I need in my life. Should I just stay single and noncommittal forever?

FICKLE IN FORT WAYNE

DEAR FICKLE: Perhaps not forever, but for now, yes, until you meet someone who has more of the qualifications you're looking for. When you do, you may finally realize that in successful relationships some degree of compromise is always involved.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I recently married a wonderful woman I have been friends with for years. I was always secretly in love with her. We are very happy together.

The only problem is that her ex-husband, from whom she has been divorced for four years, was violent. If I try to brush her hair away from her face or make a sudden movement of any kind, she flinches or panics.

I have never been violent with anyone, and I know she has PTSD from her past marriage. How should I sensitively broach the subject of counseling to deal with this serious issue?

CONCERNED IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR CONCERNED: When it happens again, tell your wife calmly that you know it's a reflex and see if you can get her to tell you why it happens. At that point you could suggest she talk to a counselor because you love her and would never hurt her, and when she flinches, it hurts YOU that she's still carrying around this heavy baggage.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am 25. My husband is 50, and we have been married for three years. We are in a healthy relationship, raise his 12-year-old together and are trying for our own children. We have plans for the rest of our lives, are in good health, have regular checkups, and our life insurance and estate planning are in order.

But, Abby, sometimes I find myself worrying about his age. I cry when I contemplate spending a chunk of my life alone because I don't think I could ever love anyone else as strongly as I do him. My husband is my rock, my reason for living, and I'm grateful for every moment I have with him.

I'm psychologically well otherwise. These sad feelings don't last longer than a few hours. Is this normal? Should I talk with someone about it? Should I just tell my husband my feelings and remind him how much he means to me?

HAPPILY MARRIED IN HENDERSON, NEV.

DEAR HAPPILY MARRIED: Your feelings are normal for a woman who is fully invested emotionally in her husband. However, if your anxiety over the possibility of losing him increases, by all means talk to a licensed mental health professional about it.

As to your last question, whether you should confide your feelings to him, it would be a beautiful compliment to let him know you don't take his importance in your life for granted or the joy he has brought you. But don't be surprised if, when he hears you say it, he says the same thing back to you. You both are truly blessed.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

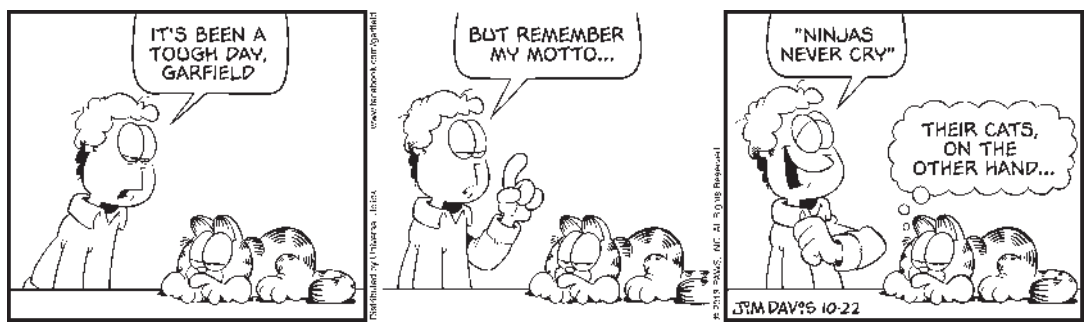
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

SEE?? SEE?! I DID HANG UP MY COAT! IT'S RIGHT THERE, JUST LIKE I SAID!
I WAS RIGHT AND YOU WERE WRONG.
OK, OK, I'M SORRY. FORGIVE ME.
HEH HEH HEH!
ANOTHER TALLY MARK FOR TODAY.
YOU DON'T NEED TO KEEP SCORE!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

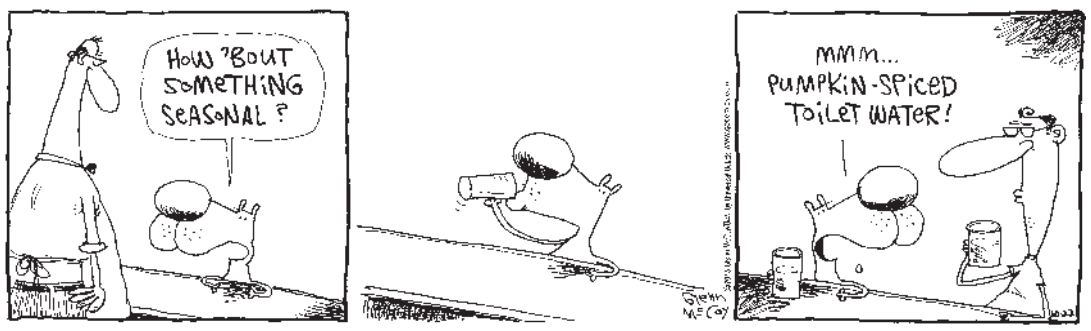


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

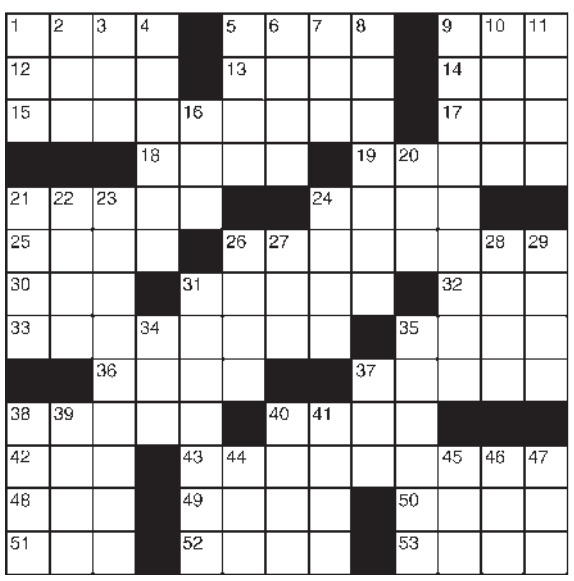
ACROSS
1 Transport for Huck Finn
5 Kind of mark or tag
9 "Terrific!"
12 Thought
13 Burn aid
14 Expert
15 "Let's Make a Deal" pioneer
17 Anger
18 Sawbucks
19 Afterward
21 Neckline ruffle
24 Opulent
25 Popular cookie
26 Blended fruit drink
30 Congressional addr.
31 Displayed
32 Actress Lupino
33 Bestowals
35 "— well that ..."
36 Money of China
37 Stubborn
38 Wan
40 Teeny amount
42 Tackle moguls
43 John Oates' partner
48 Slithery swimmer
49 Misstep
50 Reed instrument
51 Puncturing tool
52 First name of 5-Down
53 Peruse

DOWN
1 Edge
2 Commotion
3 Marshy area
4 Body art
5 1944 chemistry Nobelist
6 "Sad to say ..."
7 Scale member
8 Mischief-maker
9 "This Kiss" singer
10 Land measure
11 Tavern request
16 Still
20 Performance
21 Duhamel of "Transformers"
22 Neighborhood
23 Long-popular British comic
24 Lines
26 Avoid
27 Witticism
28 Not working
29 Simple
31 Unspecified person
34 Payable
35 Dan Brown or Amy Tan
37 Wire measure
38 On the briny
39 Distort
40 Legal paper
41 Syringe, for short
44 Elev.
45 Honest politician
46 Mauna —
47 Initiated

Solution time: 21 mins.

D	O	D	O	■	S	H	E	■	A	K	I	N
E	N	O	R	M	O	U	S	■	N	I	S	I
S	E	R	G	E	A	N	T	■	G	E	L	T
■	■	■	I	M	P	■	O	L	I	V	E	S
R	O	D	E	O	■	A	N	O	N	■	■	■
E	T	A	S	■	P	R	I	V	A	T	E	■
D	I	D	■	S	E	T	A	E	■	O	R	E
■	C	A	P	T	A	I	N	■	M	O	O	T
■	■	■	L	U	C	E	■	W	E	L	S	H
A	L	B	I	N	O	■	B	E	G	■	■	■
W	I	I	F	■	C	O	R	P	O	R	A	L
L	E	A	R	■	K	N	O	T	H	O	L	E
S	U	B	S	■	S	O	W	■	M	E	L	D

Yesterday's answer 10-22



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Zac Hanson, 28; Jesse Tyler Ferguson, 38; Jeff Goldblum, 61; Catherine Deneuve, 70.

Happy Birthday: Set your goals high and reach for the stars. Engage in friendships and collaborate with positive individuals willing to share. Strive to excel. Promote, present and posture yourself for bigger things to come. Acceptance, versatility and having the stamina to follow through will be your ticket to freedom and satisfaction. Develop what you have to offer and build on solid ground. Your numbers are 4, 7, 15, 27, 34, 39, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Focus on what you can do and how you can make a difference, not what others want from you. Stand behind your ideas and create a buzz. Be the mastermind; communicate and display what you have to offer. Romance looks promising. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Follow through with your plans and you will gain power. Persistence and being a little pushy will help you excel. A better situation at home or a new place to live looks favorable, but don't overspend on luxury items. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Self-improvement projects should be on your to-do list. Making subtle changes to your appearance will improve your personal outlook. Your emotions will be difficult to control if someone you are fond of is evasive or unhappy with something you did. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Participate in activities that allow you to discuss job possibilities. Sharing your ideas will make you look good and should lead to something that interests you. Show off your creative talent. Take action and you will get a good response. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Problems at home will keep you busy. An older member of your family may add to your responsibilities. Schedule your day precisely and you will have room for some entertainment and fun with friends or your lover during the evening hours. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Speak up, offer suggestions and show your concern. Use your expertise and call in favors in order to help a cause of choice. An emotional problem is likely to surface if someone you are close to feels neglected. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Rethink your plans. If you have been procrastinating about a creative idea, it's time to make things happen. A change in an important partnership appears to be to your benefit. Romance is highlighted. Mixing business with pleasure looks encouraging. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Apply a bit of pressure if someone opposes you. An innovative and intuitive approach will capture interest and support. Travel to a destination that can broaden your outlook or help you diversify current plans. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Update your image. In order to get the gig, you have to look the part. Jealousy is apparent and someone may mislead or try to outdo you. A partnership will undergo stress if one or both of you are being evasive. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Put in the time and you will be pleased with the results. Work to improve partnerships and expand your prospects, both personally and professionally. Don't let a last-minute change of plans alter your course. Do what's best for you. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Keep your thoughts a secret and concentrate on your goals. Don't be fooled by someone trying to bully or fast-talk you into something you don't feel right about doing. A change in your personal life looks beneficial. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Jealousy and emotional mayhem is apparent. Back away from a situation that is spinning out of control. Focus on what will get you ahead professionally, financially and contractually. Explore new avenues but don't let your emotions interfere with your decisions. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are unpredictable, exciting and diverse. You are driven and strong-willed.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

5			6	9	7			8
		3				6		
	9				5		4	
4		7						2
2				8				3
1						5		4
	4		5				8	
		2				7		
6			9	2	1			5

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	8	4	6	9	3	5	1	7
9	3	5	8	7	1	4	2	6
7	6	1	5	4	2	8	9	3
6	4	9	2	1	7	3	5	8
5	7	2	3	8	4	9	6	1
3	1	8	9	6	5	7	4	2
1	5	6	4	3	8	2	7	9
4	9	3	7	2	6	1	8	5
8	2	7	1	5	9	6	3	4

Difficulty Level ★ 10/21

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

DOING THE LAUNDRY **Solution: 8 letters**

L	D	M	M	T	S	E	H	T	O	L	C	O	L	D
O	N	R	R	D	S	P	O	T	B	O	N	N	E	T
O	A	I	R	O	N	R	T	P	O	O	C	S	N	R
W	H	I	T	E	I	E	E	A	Y	C	K	A	I	I
S	T	A	I	N	W	E	L	A	E	E	Y	A	R	D
P	A	O	S	A	S	B	R	B	R	H	T	C	O	K
I	T	E	S	A	D	L	R	U	G	S	R	T	L	S
N	N	H	E	C	F	E	T	I	S	H	O	I	H	E
E	E	R	R	C	Y	A	L	N	G	A	S	U	C	L
L	G	E	P	L	R	C	B	I	E	H	E	S	O	I
I	R	V	I	E	I	H	O	R	C	V	T	M	L	P
T	E	O	P	A	I	O	N	A	I	A	L	E	O	A
X	T	M	K	N	I	T	S	S	T	C	T	O	R	N
E	E	E	R	E	Y	R	D	I	L	U	T	E	S	T
T	D	R	E	T	A	W	R	E	N	E	T	F	O	S

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Bleach, Blend, Bonnet, Bright, Chlorine, Clean, Clothes, Coat, Cold, Color, Cycle, Delicate, Detergent, Dilute, Dirt, Dryer, Fabric, Grease, Hand, Heat, Hotel, Iron, Knits, Measure, Oily, Pants, Pile, Press, Rayon, Remove, Rinse, Rugs, Scoop, Shirt, Silk, Soak, Soap, Softener, Soil, Solvent, Sort, Spin, Spot, Stain, Suit, Temperature, Textile, Warm, Wash, Water, White, Wool

Yesterday's Answer: Baggage

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit wonderword.universaluclick.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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ANAKS 2BR APT, A.C, ceiling fans, washer/dryer, gas range, R.O. water, swimming pool, tennis court & 24hr security in a gated community. 322-4785 or 483-4785

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Is there a single lady between the ages of 45 to 60 living on Saipan? That would like a male for a roommate/Companion? If interested, Call 670-785-0988.

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FOR SALE

- Corner of Anatahan Drive and Guguan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan
- 19,969 sqm
- Great location for commercial or residential development
- Flat topography, utilities at site, paved road frontage on two sides
- Fee simple ownership available
- $250,000

Contact: Tim Goodwin, Pacific Rim International
P: 670-483-9351 • **E:** tgoodwin@saipan.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1-Commercial Cleaner
1-Maintenance Repairer

If interested, send resume and police clearance to Fruitful, Inc. P.O. Box 5061 CHRB Saipan MP 96950. Text # 510-393-6294.

REQ DAY & NIGHT CHILD CARE
Job Vacancy Announcement

(3) DAY CARE WORKER

- CCDF CERTIFICATION REQUIRED
- WILLING TO WORK FLEXIBLE HOURS
- MUST BE RELIABLE
- MEDICAL BACKGROUND IS A PLUS
- FIVE (5) YEAR EXPERIENCE IN CHILDCARE

Please email resume to reqchildcare@yahoo.com

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P.O. BOX 502136, SAIPAN, MP 96950
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) **General Manager -** $1,000 per month
(1) **Construction Supervisor -** $5.75 per hour

Call 898-4638

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Pacific Marine Enterprises
Tel: 670-233-0744

YANO Enterprises, Inc.
dba: **Kinpachi Restaurant**

Cook (3): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test.

Applicants of positions listed above are required to have a minimum of 3-5 year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant, MISA Bld. 1 Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. Please no phone calls.

EMPLOYMENT

(1) Salesperson. Salary $5.55p/h. Call Hua Bie Enterprises at 287-7779.

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for used cars Year 2006 & up and Truck. Good condition. We pay cash!. Call 287-7676.

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... **$29.99** without Insurance
Call: 233-8855, 483-8866 or 233-8866
$100 Security Deposit Required
Garapan • Susupe • San Antonio
Some conditions may apply

American K&W Corporation
PMB 978 BOX 10001 Saipan, MP 96950

Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Waitress

Salary $5.55 p/h. High School graduate. Minimum 2 years experience. Knowledge in Chinese and Japanese languages a plus.

If interested, email thomastchong@gmail.com

ANAKS CONDOMINIUM
FOR SALE AND RENT

- Hillside location one mile from downtown Garapan.
- Swimming pool, tennis court, gated security, stand-by power, filtered water, etc.

SALE: 2-Bedroom, 1.5 Bath, 1,250 ft, partial ocean views, split-level, location has limited steps, furnished…$105,000.
RENT: 2-Bedroom, 1.5 Bath, split-level, furnished, 1,250 ft…$900/mo

Contact: Tim Goodwin, Pacific Rim International
P: 670-483-9351 • **E:** tgoodwin@saipan.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1- Business Consultant
$5.55/Hour
Bachelor's Degree in Economics
Minimum of 5 years experience.
Must speak, write, and read Japanese.

E-mail resume to
info@jobmar.com
no later than November 1st
JOB MARKET USA CORPORATION

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Realty Management Services

Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **$250**/month.
2-BR, 1-BTH. **$350-$550**/month. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
$600/month

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
$550/month

LNH Apartments
(Lower Navy Hill)
Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. EPA Solar Water Heater.
$350-$450/month

FEATURES:

- **Fully Furnished**
- **Back-up Generator**
- **Air-conditioning in all rooms**
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- **Nighttime Security**
- **Ample Parking**
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Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com
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235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Teaching Positions

- High School Advanced Placement English and Math
- High School Science (Physics and Chemistry)

If interested, bring resume and police clearance to Saipan International School. No telephone calls please.

WESTERN SALES TRADING COMPANY has an opening for:

One (1) Sales Representative
Minimum qualifications: Associates degree (may be foreign and/or educational equivalent).
Duties: Sells company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Meets with customers in order to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Quotes prices and credit terms for purchase of company's products. Prepares sales slips or sales contracts and may collect payment from customers. Ensures that customers' orders are properly filled. Arranges for delivery of products to customers.

If interested, send resume to Western Sales Trading Company by email to wstcospn@pticom.com or by fax at 670-322-9408. Proof of qualifications and police clearance required within three days of hire.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is inviting individuals to apply for the following positions:

Circulations Coordinator
Associates degree with a minimum of 2 years progressively responsible work experience. Requirements include professional customer service and good driving skills. Must be able to routinely lift and move bundles of newspapers up to 50 lbs.

Reporter (2)
Associates degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English, or any related course; At least 3 years work related experience; Above-average writing skills and a competent grasp of grammar and syntax; With rigorous standards for accuracy and detail; Ability to work within deadlines and in a stressful environment; Knowledgeable in all types of writing, including news and features; With photography skills.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Saipan Tribune, Inc. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, October 31, 2013.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advice that there will be an event at the beach of 13 Fishermen Monument

This is to inform the public that there will be a wake boarding competition at the beach of 13 Fishermen at 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on October 24, 2013.
The place is reserved for that event.
Your understanding is greatly appreciated.

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) EXECUTIVE CHEF
Work requires eight (8) years progressive experience in high volume food production or catering in multi-unit restaurant Hotel or Resort environment. Experience preparing multi-ethnic cuisine is required. Must have the following: strong leadership/communication skills at all levels of the organization. Exceptional guest focus and proven positive employee relations skills a must. Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays.

(1) JAPAN SALES MANAGER
Coordinates all local Japanese sales efforts. Develops and maintains relationships with local Japanese tour companies and local representatives of Japan wholesalers. Responsibilities include coordinating all local marketing efforts targeted to Japanese tourists while in Saipan, placing advertisements in Japanese language publications, forecasting wholesaler materialization, organizing Japanese groups, representing hotel at JSTA and local Japanese Society, supervising Japanese market campaigns, conducting weekly sales calls and hosting Japanese media and travel agent familiarization tours. Prepares required weekly and monthly reports. Three (3) years of Sales Manager experience for the hotel industry is required. Proficiency in Japanese language (verbal, written, reading and understanding) as well as Japanese MS Office, Epitome, Japanese hotel booking systems is required.

(3) HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR
Two (2) years Housekeeping Supervisor experience required (minimum 300 rooms hotel). Motivated self-starter, ability to clean rooms as required, responsible for checking up to 80 rooms per shift. Must be able to work graveyard shifts/weekends/holidays.

(9) ROOM ATTENDANT
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Colts snap Broncos' 17-game winning streak

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Andrew Luck threw for three touchdowns and ran for another Sunday night, outplaying predecessor Peyton Manning in a 39-33 victory over the previously unbeaten Denver Broncos.

The victory ended the Broncos' 17-game regular-season winning streak in the first game Manning played against his former team since being released in March 2012.

Manning finished 29 of 49 for 386 yards with three TDs and one interception. He was sacked four times and tried desperately to rally the Broncos late.

But the Colts took advantage of his and Denver's uncharacteristic mistakes.

Luck converted an early fumble into a TD pass. Indy got nine points out of a second-quarter strip sack, and Luck scored on a 10-yard run in the third quarter, a drive helped by a series of defensive penalties. When the Broncos (6-1) finally had a chance to tie it, Manning was intercepted.

Indianapolis has not lost consecutive games under Luck.

AP

Denver Broncos wide receiver Eric Decker (87) loses his helmet as he makes a reception against Indianapolis Colts defense during the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Oct. 20, 2013, in Indianapolis.

Chiefs 17, Texans, 16

In Kansas City, Jamaal Charles ran for 86 yards and a touchdown and Alex Smith also ran for a score as the scrappy Chiefs held off the banged-up Houston to remain unbeaten.

The Chiefs were forced to punt the ball to Houston with 1:46 left in the game. But after Case Keenum threw an incompletion on first down, the young quarterback was stripped by linebacker Tamba Hali at his 2. Derrick Johnson recovered the fumble for the Chiefs.

Smith simply kneeled from there as time ran out, allowing Kansas City (7-0) to extend the second-best start in franchise history.

Redskins 45, Bears 41

In Maryland, Roy Helu's third touchdown, a 3-yard run with 45 seconds to play, lifted the Redskins.

Robert Griffin III completed 18 of 29 passes for 298 yards with two touchdowns and one interception for the Redskins (2-4), who have both of their wins against backup quarterbacks. This time it was Josh McCown, who entered in the second quarter after Jay Cutler left with a groin injury.

Griffin also ran 11 times for a season-high 84 yards against a defense depleted by injuries, but the breakout performance came from rookie tight end Jordan Reed, who caught nine passes for 134 yards and one touchdown.

Jets 30, Patriots 27, OT

In New Jersey, Nick Folk kicked a 42-yard field goal with 5:07 left in overtime. Folk got a second chance after he missed a 56-yarder moments earlier. But Chris Jones was called for unsportsmanlike conduct for pushing a teammate forward to try to block the kick, a new NFL rule.

New York, given new life, ran the ball three times to set up Folk's winner.

Geno Smith threw a touchdown pass and ran for another score as the Jets (4-3) topped Tom Brady and the Patriots (5-2).

Steelers 19, Ravens 16

In Pittsburgh, Shaun Suisham drilled a 42-yard field goal with no time remaining. Suisham's fourth field goal of the day pushed the Steelers (2-4) to their second straight win.

Ben Roethlisberger completed 17 of 23 passes for 160 yards and a touchdown. He hit Antonio Brown for a pair of big gains on Pittsburgh's final drive, putting Suisham well within range to win it. Running back Le'Veon Bell ran for a season-high 93 yards on 19 carries.

Packers 31, Browns 13

In Green Bay, Aaron Rodgers guided an undermanned offense with 260 yards and three touchdowns, and Eddie Lacy ran for another score.

Lacy finished with 82 yards, while tight end Jermichael Finley had a 10-yard touchdown catch in the first quarter before leaving with a neck injury. The team said he had movement in his extremities.

Green Bay (4-2) won its third straight game.

49ers 31, Titans 17

In Nashville, Colin Kaepernick threw for 199 yards and ran for 68 and a touchdown. The 49ers (5-2) won their fourth straight before heading to London for a game with winless Jacksonville by jumping out to a 17-0 halftime lead. Frank Gore also ran for a pair of 1-yard TDs as San Francisco cruised.

Tramaine Brock also intercepted a pass, Justin Smith had two of the 49ers' three sacks and Kassim Osgood recovered a muffed punt for a TD.

The Titans (3-4) lost their third straight even with Jake Locker starting after missing two games with a sprained right hip and knee.

Bengals 27, Lions 24

In Detroit, Mike Nugent's 54-yard field goal as time expired lifted the Bengals. The AFC North-leading Bengals (5-2) won a game for the second straight week by the same score thanks to Nugent's right foot. He made an overtime kick to give Cincinnati a win after it blew a 14-point, fourth-quarter lead at Buffalo

The Lions (4-3) looked like they did enough to send the game to OT, but rookie Sam Martin shanked a punt just 28 yards to midfield in the final minute.

Andy Dalton, who threw three touchdown passes, took advantage with two short passes to set up the winning field goal.

Cowboys 17, Eagles 3

In Philadelphia, Tony Romo threw for 317 yards and one touchdown and the Cowboys overcame a sluggish start to take sole possession of first place in the NFC East.

Two teams that averaged a combined 58 points per game and allowed a combined 55 totaled 13 punts in a first half that ended with Dallas (4-3) leading 3-0. It was more two inept offenses than two dominant defenses.

The Eagles (3-4) have lost a franchise-worst nine straight games at home. Their last win at the Linc was over the New York Giants on Sept. 30, 2012.

Falcons 31, Buccaneers 23

In Atlanta, Matt Ryan threw for 273 yards and three touchdowns, including two to Jacquizz Rodgers, and the Falcons snapped their three-game losing streak.

Harry Douglas had seven receptions for a career-best 149 yards, including a 37-yard touchdown catch, for the Falcons (2-4). Douglas flourished as Ryan's No. 1 receiver with Julio Jones out for the season and Roddy White inactive for the first time in his nine-year career due to hamstring and ankle injuries.

Falcons safety William Moore sacked Mike Glennon to force a fumble on Tampa Bay's first possession. Safety Thomas DeCoud returned the fumble recovery 30 yards for a touchdown.

Bills 23, Dolphins 21

In Miami, Mario Williams forced a fumble when he sacked Ryan Tannehill with less than three minutes left, setting up the winning field goal. Dan Carpenter, released in August after five seasons with the Dolphins, beat his former team by making a 31-yarder with 33 seconds to go.

Rookie Nickell Robey returned an interception 19 yards for a touchdown on the third play of the game to help the Bills build an early 14-0 lead, but they had to rally after Brandon Gibson caught his second touchdown pass of the game to put Miami ahead.

Panthers 30, Rams 15

In North Carolina, Cam Newton completed 15 of 17 passes for 204 yards and a touchdown in a heated game.

The Rams (3-4) lost their cool with several personal foul penalties — and then lost quarterback Sam Bradford to an apparent left knee injury late in the fourth quarter.

The extent of the injury was unknown and Bradford will undergo an MRI exam.

Bradford was running toward the sideline when he was pushed out of bounds by safety Mike Mitchell and came up holding his left knee. He was carted to the locker room.

Chargers 24, Jaguars 6

In Florida, Philip Rivers threw for 285 yards and a touchdown, Ryan Mathews ran for 110 yards and a score, and the surging Chargers (4-3) showed little, if any, issues with a short week, a cross-country flight and an early start time. And they played nothing like a team looking ahead to its bye week.

Then again, the Jaguars have made everyone look good.

Jacksonville (0-7) has lost every game this season by double digits, becoming the first team since the 1984 Houston Oilers to garner that dubious distinction. The Oilers lost their first 10 games that season by at least 10 points.

Webb Simpson triumphs in Las Vegas

Shriners Hospitals for Children Open

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Webb Simpson got the fast start he has looking for—in the final round at TPC Summerlin and in the PGA Tour's new wrap-around season.

Simpson birdied two of the first three holes Sunday, pulling away for a six-stroke win in the second event of the season.

"One over through three yesterday and 2 under today felt like a huge difference," Simpson said. "And it was because it really let me slow down and pace myself, and you know, try to let the guys come after me."

Winning for the first time since the 2012 U.S. Open, Simpson closed with a 5-under 66 in the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open. He finished at 24-under 260 after opening with rounds of 64, 63 and 67 to take a four-stroke lead into the final round.

"As we were going kind of middle of the round, pins were tough, greens were drying out and I knew it would take a really special round for somebody to shoot 7, 8 under," Simpson said.

"So, I felt like I was in control, and I asked my caddie, once I hit it on the green on 17 where we stood. And I was just thankful that I was able to kind of manage my golf ball the last couple rounds."

Simpson earned $1.08 million for his fourth PGA Tour title. In addition to the U.S. Open last year at The Olympic Club, he won the Wyndham Championship and Deutsche Bank Championship in 2011.

Ryo Ishikawa and Jason Bohn tied for second. Ishikawa, the Japanese player who had to play the Web.com Tour Finals to regain his PGA Tour card, shot a 65.

"I wish I could made a couple putts, like three putts," Ishikawa said. "I missed a lot of putts this week, like 10 feet, 15 feet, 20 feet. I missed a lot. But still, I'm pretty happy with that result."

Bohn had a 66.

Charley Hoffman was fourth at 17 under after a 64.

"When you get that far up the leaderboard every putt you make is worth big dollars and big FedEx Cup points," Hoffman said. "So, to get the year started off on the right foot, you always want to make those putts."

Chesson Hadley, second entering the final round, had a 70 to drop into a tie for fifth at 16 under with Luke Guthrie, Troy Matteson and Charles Howell III.

"I was certainly nervous out there today, but I was able just to kind of hang in there," Hadley said.

Guthrie and Matteson shot 64, and Howell had a 65. Matteson had seven straight birdies—on Nos. 9-15—to fall one short of the tournament record set by Jerry Kelly in 2003.

Red Sox closer Uehara wins ALCS MVP

BOSTON (AP)—Koji Uehara wasn't Boston's first choice to be closer this season.

Or the second.

The 38-year-old right-hander got the job after neither Joel Hanrahan nor Andrew Bailey lasted as closer. Uehara was setting up for them before he inherited the ninth-inning role in late June, and by October he was the AL championship series MVP.

"All I can say that I'm extremely, extremely happy right now," he said after the Red Sox beat the Detroit Tigers 5-2 in Game 6 of the ALCS on Saturday night to advance to the World Series.

Uehara pitched a scoreless ninth in the clincher, giving him three saves and a victory in the four wins Boston needed to win the AL pennant for the third time in 10 years. After converting 21 of 24 save opportunities in the regular season with a 1.09 ERA, he is five of five while allowing one run in nine innings in the playoffs.

And he's not done yet.

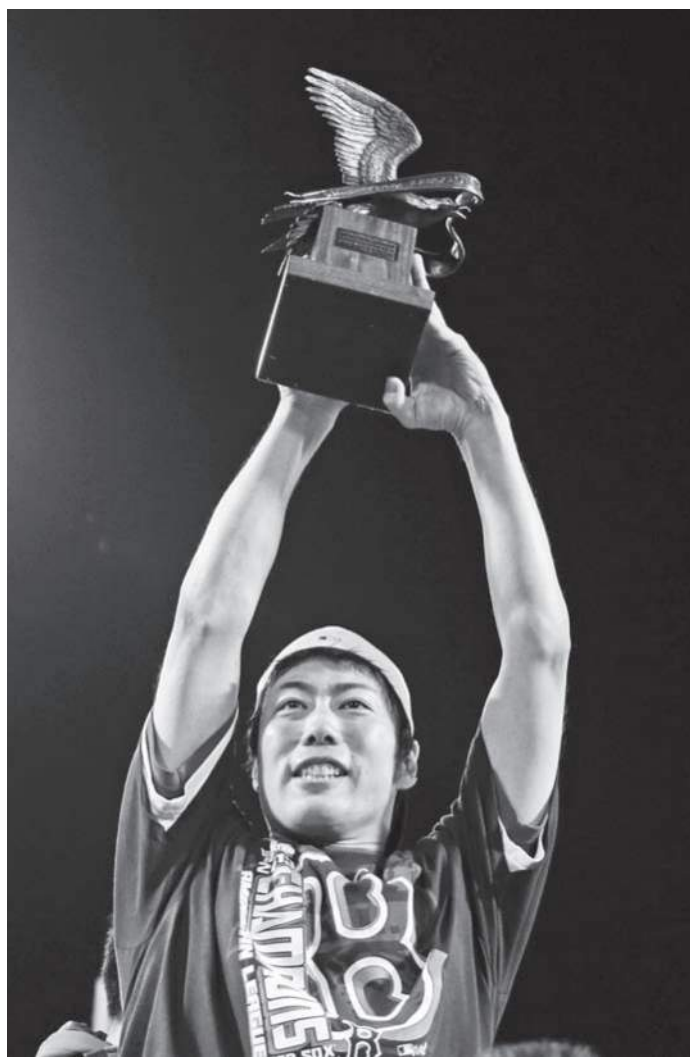
The World Series starts in Boston on Wednesday, when the Red Sox will play the St. Louis Cardinals in a rematch of the 1946, 1967 and 2004 Series. Uehara is a big reason why, anchoring a bullpen that allowed the Tigers just one run in 21 innings of relief.

"I think coming to the postseason, there were a lot of questions circling around our guys to bridge it to Koji," said Red Sox manager John Farrell, praising setup men Junichi Tazawa and Craig Breslow, who along with Brandon Workman pitched four scoreless innings after the Red Sox fell behind 2-1. "They couldn't have pitched anymore consistently, more effectively."

Since giving up a game-ending homer to Tampa Bay's Jose Lobaton in Game 3 of the division series, Uehara has allowed zero runs, four hits and no walks in 7 1-3 innings. He pitched a perfect ninth in the Game 2 victory over the Tigers, got four outs for the save in the third game, retired five in a row in Game 5 and closed out the series with another scoreless inning.

That's why he was leaping into catcher Jarrod Saltalamacchia's arms after striking out Jose Iglesias to clinch the trip to the Series and draped in an AL championship flag on the stand wheeled onto the infield for the trophy presentation.

"I was reading a lot of the articles today about when they signed him, they probably in their own mind didn't anticipate this was going to happen," Tigers manager Jim Leyland said before the finale. "But sometimes it does. And they caught lightning in a bottle. He's been absolutely terrific, there's no question about that. And obviously his significance right now is probably as important as anybody they've got on their team."



AP

Boston Red Sox relief pitcher Koji Uehara hoists the most valuable player trophy after the Red Sox beat the Detroit Tigers, 5-2, in Game 6 of the American League baseball championship series on Saturday, Oct. 19, 2013, in Boston. Uehara was named the series MVP, and the Red Sox advanced to the World Series.

Uehara had a 1.75 ERA in 37 relief appearances for the Rangers last year, holding batters to a .160 average. The Red Sox signed him at the winter meetings to a deal that guaranteed him $4.25 million. He he's earned another $800,000 bonuses and finished enough games to guarantee a 2014 salary of $5 million.

"It was more of how the team wanted me, their passion to acquire me and the sincerity," Uehara said after collecting his ALCS MVP trophy. "I felt honored to play for this team."

But no one expected him to be the closer.

Three weeks after signing Uehara, the Red Sox acquired Hanrahan. But he only lasted until the first week in May before needing season-ending elbow surgery. Bailey, who missed most of last season following thumb surgery, gave closing a shot but was ineffective before giving way to Uehara and then shutting it down around the All-Star break.

Although Farrell conceded Uehara was promoted out of necessity, it's not like the team didn't see the potential from the start.

"We knew he was going to be a key contributor toward the back end of the bullpen," Farrell said last week. "His track record indicates that. ... And I keep going back to the fact that he's not doing something this year that is so out of the norm for him. He's been a very successful pitcher, whether it's been in Japan or here. But the fact he's the closer here, he's gained the notoriety that he deserves."

Brilliant rotation not enough for Tigers

DETROIT (AP)—In a scene emblematic of Detroit's postseason downfall, Max Scherzer could only watch.

In fact, there was little any of the Tigers' starting pitchers could have done differently to prevent another disappointing ending to a fine year.

''Normally if you pitch the way we pitched in this series, you would probably think that you had won,'' manager Jim Leyland said.

The Tigers lost the AL championship series to Boston in six games because the few weaknesses they had all seemed to hurt them at the worst possible time. Whether it was an unreliable bullpen, poor baserunning or shaky fielding, the Red Sox took advantage of every Detroit flaw.

Now the Tigers must look ahead to 2014, with a core of players that has done everything Detroit could ask for - except win a World Series for the Motor City for the first time since 1984.

The first question - as it was last offseason - is whether Leyland will be back. He's been working on one-year contracts the last couple of seasons, and although he's given no indication he plans to leave, nothing is official.

The Tigers have won three straight AL Central titles and reached the ALCS each of those years. The 2012 season ended when Detroit was swept in the World Series by San Francisco, and this year's team nearly won the pennant again on the strength of a stellar starting rotation.

Scherzer, Justin Verlander, Anibal Sanchez and Doug Fister combined for a 2.39 ERA as starters in the postseason, but the Tigers weren't able to take advantage. After beating Oakland in a five-game division series, Detroit blanked Boston 1-0 in Game 1 of the ALCS and had a 5-0 lead in Game 2 - but David Ortiz's series-turning grand slam off closer Joaquin Benoit helped the Red Sox rally to win that game.

In Game 3, Justin Verlander allowed his only run of the postseason, and that was enough for a 1-0 win by Boston. Detroit's once-powerful offense became increasingly limited because of injuries to Miguel Cabrera and Prince Fielder's inability to hit for power.

A grand slam by Shane Victorino—again off a Detroit reliever after Scherzer had been pulled—enabled the Red Sox to end the series with a win in Game 6.

''The difference really, when you look at the series, is they hit a couple of big bombs and we just didn't quite do that,'' Leyland said. ''They hit a couple of timely, two or three really timely home runs.''

Of course, the Tigers hurt themselves in other ways. They derailed rallies with poor baserunning and made costly mistakes in the field. Rookie shortstop Jose Iglesias, perhaps the best Detroit fielder, was unable to come up with a grounder in Game 6, immediately before Victorino's grand slam.

The Tigers were never expecting to win the World Series because of their speed and defense, but it was jarring to see their deficiencies in those areas come back to haunt them so starkly.

Handful of Cardinals remain from '11 Series

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Rosters turn over so quickly these days, the St. Louis Cardinals used only seven players from their 2011 World Series roster in this year's NL championship series.

The NL champions got contributions from 20 rookies this season, many in starring roles on a team that led the NL with 97 wins and then reached the World Series for the second time in three years.

General manager John Mozeliak sees little commonalities, pointing out the '11 team sneaked into the postseason as the second wild card and this year's team that until now has had the home-field advantage.

"The good story line is you've got two teams that have the best records in the game matching up in the World Series," Mozeliak said. "And I think that's nice. A lot of times, that doesn't work out."

Lance Lynn is the only pitcher left from two years ago, joined against the Dodgers by position players Yadier Molina, Matt Carpenter, Daniel Descalso, David Freese, Matt Holliday and Jon Jay. Cleanup man Allen Craig, sidelined by a foot injury since early September, is expected to join them in the Series and would open as the DH.

The first time Craig would have to play first base is Game 3 Friday in St. Louis, and everyone's optimistic especially given those extra rehab days. Craig's .454 average with runners in scoring position led the majors, and aside from the Cardinals' clinching 9-0 rout of the Dodgers in Game 6 of the NLCS, the offense has struggled without him.

"He could be the difference," Molina said. "I'm happy to have him back."

When the Cardinals were swept by Boston in the 2004 Series, Michael Wacha and Trevor Rosenthal were in middle school.

Wacha was a first-round selection in June 2012 - the Cardinals' compensation pick for losing Albert Pujols to the Angels in free agency - scaled the system quickly and has been phenomenal in the postseason at 3-0 with an 0.43 ERA. He's been to Fenway Park once before, as a sophomore at Texas A&M playing for a college all-star team but didn't play.

"It's unbelievable, just the history," Wacha said. "It's Fenway, it's an amazing ballpark and I just really look forward to getting to play there."

St. Louis worked out Sunday after a day off to savor the NL pennant. They leave for Boston on Tuesday, and just a handful have firsthand experience of the ill-fated 105-win team that got swept by the Red Sox.

"That was one of the toughest experiences in my baseball career," said manager Mike Matheny, who shared catching duties with Molina that year. "You don't forget that."

Matheny said the feeling was similar to the nausea he felt as a rookie manager in the 2012 postseason when the Cardinals took a 3-1 NLCS lead over the Giants and then got walloped three straight times, in his words "getting our lunch handed to us."

"It's a lot like what happened last year as we were standing in the rain watching San Francisco celebrate," Matheny said. "Could we have done anything different? I don't know. But it sure left a sharp bite."

Ace Chris Carpenter was sidelined before that postseason with the first occurrence of a nerve injury that knocked him out all of this season. Carpenter still suits up but in a ceremonial role as a de facto bench coach.

Mozeliak was assistant GM under Walt Jocketty in `04 and remembered everything seeming rushed. The Cardinals beat the Astros in the NLCS, took batting practice at Fenway the next afternoon and then took the first of four lumps.

Off the field, manager Tony La Russa took issue with distant lodging and the "bar food" offered when they arrived at the hotel.

Molina was a 21-year-old rookie in 2004. This year, he's in the conversation for MVP.

"Back then I was just a kid trying to learn," Molina said. "I have a lot more experience."

Carpenter is among four players from '11 that are still with the team but won't be on the roster. Shortstop Rafael Furcal (elbow) also has been out the entire season, Jaime Garcia is rehabbing from midseason shoulder surgery and Jake Westbrook was rarely used the final month coming off elbow and back woes.

Putting Craig on the roster could come at the expense of rookie Kolten Wong, one of the team's top prospects and the likely second baseman of the future.

"We don't have that many extra guys around here that we'd be jostling around what our roster's going to look like," Matheny said.

Matheny announced Adam Wainwright, a 19-game winner who was injured in 2011, and Wacha as the starting pitchers for Games 1 and 2, but didn't go further. Joe Kelly and Lynn are likely to go in Games 3 and 4, given Mozeliak anticipates rookie 15-game winner Shelby Miller will stay in the bullpen for emergency long relief duty.

Miller has pitched just one inning in the postseason and threw to Craig on Sunday.

"I think right now where he's at, I think he'll still be probably used as insurance," Mozeliak said.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Team Marianas joins the opening ceremonies of the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau. The CNMI through NMASA will host a sports management program this weekend.

NMASA hosts sports management workshop

The Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association (NMASA) will host the Micronesian Regional Sporting Event Management Workshop this weekend.

The two-day program will be held on Friday, Oct. 25, and Saturday, Oct. 26, at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. The workshop is offered through the generous patronage of the International University Sports Association (FISU), the Oceania University Sports Association (OUSA), and the Australian University Sports Association.

Friday's workshop will run from 1:30pm to 4:30pm, while Saturday's session will take place from 8:30am to 4:30pm with a break for lunch. Registration for the workshop will be offered free of charge.

This workshop will be of great interest to anyone and everyone who is involved in the organization of athletic events, the management of teams travelling off-island, and sport administration in general, according to NMASA's press statement.

NMASA's member federations should send a representative to the workshop, the statement added. Public and private schools, and other organizations and individuals who run athletic events or support athletic teams are also invited and will find this workshop very valuable. Sports administrators from other countries and territories in the Micronesian Region will also benefit from the program.

The workshop is open to all interested sports administrators from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, as well as Guam, Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

The workshop will be led by Donna Spethman, National Programs Manager, Australian University Sport. It will focus on delivering a successful event, team management, and club development.

For further information, please contact NMASA president Michael A. White at mwhite@saipan.com. ***(PR)***

MP UNITED ON A ROLL

The MP United U10 Team players and officials pose for a photo after getting their third straight victory in the NMIFA fall league last Saturday at the Dandan Elementary School Field.

YOUTH

From Page 28

munity Badminton Club, took the other bye in the first round and moved into the semis after defeating Joel Ortega and Jojo Savellano in two games last Saturday, 21-16, 21-14.

Earlier last Friday, Savellano and Ortega earned the right to challenge Macario and Pangilinan in the second round after topping Jerry Tan and Piao. Ortega and Savellano cruised past their foes in the first game, 21-6, before eking out a 21-20 triumph in the second to secure the sweep.

With the defeat, Piao and Tan were relegated to the losers bracket, but were eventually booted out of the tournament after bowing to Hilario and Cordero. Cordero and Hilario avoided the early showers after registering a 21-14, 21-16 victory over Tan and Piao last Saturday.

Also eluding elimination was the pair of Savellano and Ortega, who survived Alvarez and Montoya in a win-or-go-home three-game match. Ortega and Savellano drew first blood in the knockout tiff last Sunday, 21-10, but failed to take the win early when Montoya and Alvarez pulled off a 21-18 triumph in the second game. Then in the deciding third game, Savellano and Ortega showed they have enough gas left on their tanks to outclass Alvarez and Montoya, 21-11.

With the tough win, Savellano and Ortega will move on to the next round and play against Cordero and Hilario this Friday with the winner facing the loser of the winner's bracket semis for the second and last finals berth. Nopia and Edralin and Caranto and Macario will also play the winner's bracket semifinals this Friday, while the title game is scheduled for Sunday. Whoever prevails in the winner's bracket semis will not only gain the first finals seat, but also earn a twice-to-beat advantage in the championship showdown.

Meanwhile, results of the other divisions—men's doubles A and C, women's doubles A,B, and C, and mixed doubles A,B, C and 40-and-above—will be reported later this week.

Saipan Little League meeting today

The Saipan Little League Inc. interim board has scheduled an organization meeting today at 6pm at the pavilion inside the Oleai Sports Complex.

Election of new officers will also be held during the meeting. SLLI will be selecting president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, chief statistician, safety officers, umpire representative, and manager representative.

For more information, contact Ray Yumul at 285-7299. ***(PR)***

I LOVE

From Page 28

der Beach collected 24 points against its foe's 14.

The Hoops failed to keep up against the much stronger and taller Ladder Beach frontliners (Standish and McCain) and neutralize Sison, who earned 15 of his total points from downtown.

Mobil 91, Toka Degree 71

In the second game, Mobil/JP World entered the win column after a 0-2 start, following a rout of Toka Degree.

Mobil showed solid offense in the first two quarters to set up the 20-point win and end its losing skid.

Freddie Pelisamen anchored Mobil's scoring early, hitting 12 points and giving his squad a 22-16 advantage. The lead grew to twin digits at halftime, 50-32, as Pelisamen was still unstoppable, adding 16 more markers. The Mobil gunner scored on streaks, firing 9 straight markers early in the second canto and nailing 7 of their last 8 points in that period.

Pelisamen finally slowed down in the second half, but his teammates took over to keep Mobil's comfortable lead. Pelisamen finished the game with 32 points, while Angelo Fernando backed him up, chipping in 15. Four more Mobil players combined for 29 markers.

Toka, which played without siblings Ed and Tony Diaz, leaned on the 18 points of Shane Mendiola.

First Game

I Love Ladder Beach 83 – Sison 17, Standish 16, Mangali 12, Abuel 11, McCain 10, Paraiso 6, Montano 5, De Leon 2.

Hoopaholics 65 – Babauta 15, Litulumar 12, Fitial 9, Lauron 8 Tenorio 8, Itibus 6, Manibusan 4, Diaz 3.

Scoring by quarters: 18-14, 40-36, 59-54, 83-65.

Second Game

Mobil/JP World 91 – Pelisamen 32, Fernando 15, Peredo 9, Demapan 8, Estolas 6, Ruluked 6, Kaipat 4, Gapor 1.

Toka Degree 71 – Mendiola 18, Camacho 17, Ja. Joyner 15, Reyes 6, Peters 4, Jo. Joyner 3, Aughenbaugh 3.

Scoring by quarters: 22-16, 50-32, 69-46, 91-71.

C&J

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out to Tinio, who was bumped by Manglona, as the latter failed to control his momentum while trying to switch back on defense to the left key.

Tinio stepped on the stripe, missed the first shot, but made the second, giving C&J Signs the lead. I Love Saipan then called a time out and with half of a second left on the clock was pressured to go up a catch and shoot play. The plan did not materialize, however, as after Glyles Ruluked inbounded the ball from the right sideline and passed it to Olaitiman, the latter dribbled twice before throwing up a prayer.

C&J Signs escaped with the victory despite playing with only four players in the last 38.4 seconds of the match. Prince Factor fouled out after reaching in against Ruluked in the rebound play. C&J Signs, which had only six players available for the game, had earlier lost Joseph Galulu late in the third quarter.

Before fouling out, Factor made a layup, followed by Buenavista's and-1 play to give C&J Signs a 71-65 lead, with 1:34 left in the match. Four straight points from Ruluked moved Island Saipan within two and it had a chance to either grab the lead or even up the count after the former got the offensive rebound off his miss on the second free throw attempt. However Leonardo Cristobal was caught for a 3-second violation, returning possession to C&J Signs.

C&J Signs then failed to close out the game early when it 0-for-4 from the line in the ensuing plays, while Olaitiman made up from an earlier error, pushed the ball up for I Love Saipan, and drilled the equalizer before a free throw from Tinio saved the day for C&J Signs.

I Love Saipan could have avoided the heartbreaker had it accepted the victory via forfeiture earlier. C&J Signs had only four players when the buzzer signaling the start of the match sounded. However, I Love Saipan really wanted to play after more than one week of break and agreed on giving C&J Signs a few more minutes to complete its starting lineup.

C&J Signs Cherries 72 – Tinio 25, Factor 18, Buenavista 11, Salas 9, Galulu 5, Jacob 4.

I Love Saipan 71 – Ruluked 32, Olaitiman 19, Cristobal 9, Mendoza 4, Lontoc 4, Camacho 3.

Scoring by quarters: 14-11, 34-28, 60-46, 72-71.

First Round of MISO Volleyball League

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Kagman High School player bends for a return to Marianas High School during their game in the 2013-2014 MISO Boys Volleyball League at the MHS Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Marianas High School players and their coach huddle during a time out.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kagman coach Suaad San Nicolas huddles with her players.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A Saipan International School player attacks while his teammates look on.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Two Grace Christian Academy players go up against one Saipan International School player.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Southern High School's Christian Miller goes for a hit against Marianas Baptist Academy.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Marianas High School's Angelo Jones serves.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Kagman High School player blocks a shot from a Marianas High School student.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Marianas Baptist Academy player returns to Saipan Southern High School.

Colts snap Broncos' 17-game winning streak

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Sports

Red Sox closer Uehara wins ALCS MVP

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Youth players advance to semis

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Four youth players marched into the winner's bracket semifinals of the men's doubles B division of the Tan Holdings Open 20013 after downing separate opponents over the weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

Deether Edralin and J.P. Nopia booked a semis berth in the double-elimination tournament after notching two wins in the opening week of the competition. The U18 duo first swept Edwin Montoya and Alvin Alvarez last Friday, 21-10, 21-15, to advance against Cris Hilario and Aries Cordero, who drew a bye in the opening round of the six-team field.

Nopia and Edralin faced Hilario and Cordero last Saturday and nailed a 21-16, 21-17 victory to set up a semis duel with fellow youth players Jordan Pangilinan and Ezekiel Macario. Pangilinan and Macario, who both play for Com-

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Deether Edralin leaps for a strong return from the backcourt during his and J.P. Nopia's game against Aries Cordero and Chris Hilario in the Tan Holdings Open 2013 last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

I Love Ladder Beach gets top spot

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

I Love Ladder Beach bagged its third straight win in the UFO-Budweiser Open Division Basketball League after dominating the Hoopaholics, 83-65, in the first game last Thursday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

With the victory, I Love Ladder Beach moved up to solo first place in the team standings in the seven-team field, one win ahead of AXE Proa (2-0). The Hoopaholics fell to third place and had its two-game winning streak snapped after dropping to a 2-2 slate. Completing the standings are Kanoa Resort (1-2), Mobil/JP World (1-2), KB Market (1-2), and Toka Degree (1-3).

Ladder Beach took the 18-point winning margin after a consistent offense, as it scored no less than 18 points in each of the four quarters. Coach Boy Garcia's team also had a balance offense, as four of its starters logged double figures. Alex Standish, who had 12 points in his debut with Ladder Beach and their 81-67 win over Kanoa Resort on Oct. 10, played even better against the Hoopaholics, drilling 16. His fellow starters Elgene Mangali and Wowie Abuel chipped in 12 and 11, respectively, while starting center Ken McCain added 10. Marlon Sison came off the bench for Ladder Beach and top-scored for the squad with his 17 markers.

Only two players broke into double figures for the Hoopaholics with Zack Babauta firing 16 and Fred Litulumar contributing 12. Though he led the Hoops' offense, Babauta was scoreless in the fourth quarter where his team was held to six field goals. Before the fourth quarter started, the Hoops only faced a 54-59 deficit, but ended up trailing by twin digits after Lad-

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I Love Ladder Beach's Kevin De Leon is hemmed in by Toka Degree's Luis Reyes during their game in the UFO Open caging early this month at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium. Ladder Beach and Toka had contrasting fortunes last Thursday with the former winning over the Hoopaholics and the latter losing to Mobil.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

C&J Signs nips I Love Saipan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

C&J Signs Cherries nosed out I Love Saipan, 72-71, in the lone game played in the 2nd DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League last Saturday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Pat Tinio made the bagger, canning his second free throw in the last .5 of a second to put C&J Signs in the win column and hand I Love Saipan its second loss in as many games. Tinio trooped to the 15-foot line, as he was fouled by Derrick Manglona. The crucial shot came after C&J Signs called a time out with 23 seconds left, following a Mike Olaitiman' basket that tied the match. When game resumed, Albert Salas quarterbacked for C&J Signs and seemed running out of time and space when he was hounded by I Love Saipan defenders on the right corner with the clock down to two seconds. Salas then kicked the ball

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

I Love Saipan's Gyles Ruluked reaches in for the ball during a rebound play against C&J Signs in their game in the DL Corp. caging last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.